

ARTICLE XXVII
AUDIT RIGHTS, DISPUTED AMOUNTS
AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

27.1 Audit Rights.

27.1.1 Subject to the restrictions set forth in Article XX and except as may be otherwise specifically provided in this Agreement, a Party ("**Auditing Party**") may audit the other Party's ("**Audited Party**") books, records, data and other documents, as provided herein, once annually (commencing on the Service Start Date) for the purpose of evaluating the accuracy of Audited Party's billing and invoicing of the services provided hereunder. The scope of the audit shall be limited to the period which is the shorter of (i) the period subsequent to the last day of the period covered by the Audit which was last performed (or if no audit has been performed, the Service Start Date) and (ii) the twelve (12) month period immediately preceding the date the Audited Party received notice of such requested audit, but in any event not prior to the Service Start Date. Such audit shall begin no fewer than thirty (30) days after Audited Party receives a written notice requesting an audit and shall be completed no later than thirty (30) days after the start of such audit. Such audit shall be conducted by an independent auditor acceptable to both Parties. The Parties shall select an auditor by the thirtieth day following Audited Party's receipt of a written audit notice. Auditing Party shall cause the independent auditor to execute a nondisclosure agreement in a form agreed upon by the Parties. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an Auditing Party may audit Audited Party's books, records and documents more than once annually if the previous audit found previously uncorrected net variances or errors in invoices in Audited Party's favor with an aggregate value of at least two percent (2%) of the amounts payable by Auditing Party for audited services provided during the period covered by the audit.

27.1.2 Each audit shall be conducted on the premises of the Audited Party during normal business hours. Audited Party shall cooperate fully in any such audit and shall provide the independent auditor reasonable access to any and all appropriate Audited Party employees and books, records and other documents reasonably necessary to assess the accuracy of Audited Party's bills. No Party shall have access to the data of the other Party, but shall rely upon summary results provided by the independent auditor. Audited Party may redact from the books, records and other documents provided to the independent auditor any confidential Audited Party information that reveals the identity of other Customers of Audited Party. Each Party shall maintain reports, records and data relevant to the billing of any services that are the subject matter of this Agreement for a period of not less than twenty-four (24) months after creation thereof, unless a longer period is required by Applicable Law.

27.1.3 If any audit confirms any undercharge or overcharge, then Audited Party shall (i) for any overpayment promptly correct any billing error, including making refund of any

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overpayment by Auditing Party in the form of a credit on the invoice for the first full billing cycle after the Parties have agreed upon the accuracy of the audit results and (ii) for any undercharge caused by the actions of or failure to act by the Audited Party, immediately compensate Auditing Party for such undercharge, in each case with interest at the lesser of (x) one and one-half (1½%) percent per month and (y) the highest rate of interest that may be charged under Applicable Law, compounded daily, for the number of days from the date on which such undercharge or overcharge originated until the date on which such credit is issued or payment is made and available, as the case may be. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Requesting Carrier shall not be liable for any Underbilled Charges for which Customer Usage Data was not furnished by Ameritech to Requesting Carrier within ten (10) months of the date such usage was incurred.

27.1.4 Audits shall be at Auditing Party's expense, subject to reimbursement by Audited Party in the event that an audit finds, and the Parties subsequently verify, adjustment in the charges or in any invoice paid or payable by Auditing Party hereunder by an amount that is, on an annualized basis, greater than two percent (2%) of the aggregate charges for the audited services during the period covered by the audit. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, in no event shall the Audited Party's reimbursement obligations exceed the amount of any adjustments in charges.

27.1.5 Any disputes concerning audit results shall be referred to the Parties' respective responsible personnel for informal resolution. If these individuals cannot resolve the dispute within thirty (30) days of the referral, either Party may request in writing that an additional audit shall be conducted by an independent auditor acceptable to both Parties, subject to the requirements set out in **Section 27.1.1**. Any additional audit shall be at the requesting Party's expense.

27.2 Disputed Amounts.

27.2.1 If any portion of an amount due to a Party (the "**Billing Party**") under this Agreement is subject to a bona fide dispute between the Parties, the Party billed (the "**Non-Paying Party**") shall, prior to the Bill Due Date, give written notice to the Billing Party of the amounts it disputes ("**Disputed Amounts**") and include in such written notice the specific details and reasons for disputing each item; provided, however, a failure to provide such notice by that date shall not preclude a Party from subsequently challenging billed charges. The Non-Paying Party shall pay when due (i) all undisputed amounts to the Billing Party, and (ii) all Disputed Amounts into an interest bearing escrow account with a third party escrow agent mutually agreed upon by the Parties. Notwithstanding the foregoing, except as provided in **Section 27.1**, a Party shall be entitled to dispute only those charges for which the Bill Due Date was within the immediately preceding twelve (12) months of the date on which the other Party received notice of such Disputed Amounts,

27.2.2 Disputed Amounts in escrow shall be subject to interest charges as set forth in **Section 26.4**. If the Non-Paying Party disputes charges and the dispute is resolved in favor of

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such Non-Paying Party, (i) the Billing Party shall credit the invoice of the Non-Paying Party for the amount of the Disputed Amounts along with any applicable interest charges assessed no later than the second Bill Due Date after the resolution of the Dispute and (ii) the escrowed Disputed Amounts shall be released to the Non-Paying Party, together with any accrued interest thereon. Accordingly, if a Non-Paying Party disputes charges and the dispute regarding the Disputed Amounts is resolved in favor of the Billing Party, (x) the escrowed Disputed Amounts and any accrued interest thereon shall be released to the Billing Party and (y) the Non-Paying Party shall no later than the second Bill Due Date after the resolution of the dispute regarding the Disputed Amounts pay the Billing Party the difference between the amount of accrued interest such Billing Party received from the escrow disbursement and the amount of interest charges such Billing Party is entitled pursuant to **Section 26.6**.

27.2.3 If the Parties are unable to resolve the issues related to the Disputed Amounts in the normal course of business within thirty (30) days after delivery to the Billing Party of notice of the Disputed Amounts, each of the Parties shall appoint a designated representative who has authority to settle the Disputed Amounts and who is at a higher level of management than the persons with direct responsibility for administration of this Agreement. The designated representatives shall meet as often as they reasonably deem necessary in order to discuss the Disputed Amounts and negotiate in good faith in an effort to resolve such Disputed Amounts. The specific format for such discussions will be left to the discretion of the designated representatives, however all reasonable requests for relevant information made by one Party to the other Party shall be honored.

27.2.4 If the Parties are unable to resolve issues related to the Disputed Amounts within thirty (30) days after the Parties' appointment of designated representatives pursuant to **Section 27.2.3**, then either Party may file a complaint with the Commission to resolve such issues or proceed with any other remedy available to the Parties. The Commission or the FCC or a court of competent jurisdiction may direct payment of any or all Disputed Amounts (including any accrued interest) thereon or additional amounts awarded plus applicable late fees, to be paid to either Party.

27.2.5 The Parties agree that all negotiations pursuant to this **Section 27.2** shall remain confidential in accordance with **Article XX** and shall be treated as compromise and settlement negotiations for purposes of the Federal Rules of Evidence and state rules of evidence.

27.3 Failure to Pay Undisputed Amounts. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, if the Non-Paying Party fails to (i) pay any undisputed amounts by the Bill Due Date, (ii) pay the disputed portion of a past due bill into an interest-bearing escrow account, (iii) give written notice to the Billing Party of the specific details and reasons for disputing amounts, (iv) pay any revised deposit or (v) make a payment in accordance with the terms of any mutually agreed upon payment arrangement, the Billing Party may, in addition to exercising any other rights or remedies it may have under Applicable Law, provide written demand to the Non-Paying Party for

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failing to comply with the foregoing. If the Non-Paying Party does not satisfy the written demand within five (5) Business Days of receipt, the Billing Party may exercise any, or all, of the following options:

- (a) assess a late payment charge and where appropriate, a dishonored check charge;
- (b) require provision of a deposit or increase an existing deposit pursuant to a revised deposit request;
- (c) refuse to accept new, or complete pending, orders; and/or
- (d) discontinue service.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, the Billing Party's exercise of (i) any of the above options shall not delay or relieve the Non-Paying Party's obligation to pay all charges on each and every invoice on or before the applicable Bill Due Date and (ii) subsections (c) and (d) above shall ~~exclude~~ any affected order or service from any applicable performance interval or Performance Benchmark. Once disconnection has occurred, additional charges may apply.

27.4 Dispute Escalation and Resolution. Except as otherwise provided herein, any dispute, controversy or claim (individually and collectively, a "**Dispute**") arising under this Agreement shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures set forth in this **Section 27.4**. In the event of a Dispute between the Parties relating to this Agreement and upon the written request of either Party, each of the Parties shall appoint within five (5) Business Days after a Party's receipt of such request a designated representative who has authority to settle the Dispute and who is at a higher level of management than the persons with direct responsibility for administration of this Agreement. The designated representatives shall meet as often as they reasonably deem necessary in order to discuss the Dispute and negotiate in good faith in an effort to resolve such Dispute. The specific format for such discussions will be left to the discretion of the designated representatives, however, all reasonable requests for relevant information made by one Party to the other Party shall be honored. If the Parties are unable to resolve issues related to a Dispute within thirty (30) days after the Parties' appointment of designated representatives as set forth above, either Party may seek any relief it is entitled to under Applicable Law. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event shall the Parties permit the pending of a Dispute to disrupt service to any Requesting Carrier Customer or Ameritech Customer.

27.5 Equitable Relief. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this **Article XXVII** shall not be construed to prevent either Party from seeking and obtaining temporary equitable remedies, including temporary restraining orders, if, in its judgment, such action is necessary to avoid

irreparable harm. Despite any such action, the Parties will continue to participate in good faith in the dispute resolution procedures described in this **Article XXVII**.

ARTICLE XXVIII

REGULATORY APPROVAL

28.1 Commission Approval. The Parties understand and agree that this Agreement will be filed with the Commission for approval by such Commission pursuant to Section 252 of the Act. If the Commission, the FCC or any court rejects any portion of this Agreement, the Parties agree to meet and negotiate in good faith to arrive at a mutually acceptable modification of the rejected portion and related provisions; provided that such rejected portion shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Agreement.

28.2 Amendment or Other Changes to the Act; Reservation of Rights. The Parties acknowledge that the respective rights and obligations of each Party as set forth in this Agreement are based on the text of the Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder by the FCC and the Commission as of the Effective Date. In the event of any amendment of the Act, or any legislative, regulatory, judicial order, rule or regulation or other legal action that revises or reverses the Act, the FCC's First Report and Order in CC Docket Nos. 96-98 and 95-1 85 or any applicable Commission order purporting to apply the provisions of the Act (individually and collectively, an "**Amendment to the Act**"), either Party may by providing written notice to the other Party require that the affected provisions be renegotiated in good faith and this Agreement be amended accordingly to reflect the pricing, terms and conditions of each such Amendment to the Act relating to any of the provisions in this Agreement. If any such amendment to this Agreement affects any rates or charges of the services provided hereunder, such amendment shall be retroactively effective if so determined by the Commission and each Party reserves its rights and remedies with respect to the collection of such rates or charges; including the right to seek a surcharge before the applicable regulatory authority.

28.3 Regulatory Changes. If any legislative, regulatory, judicial or other legal action (other than an Amendment to the Act, which is provided for in **Section 28.2**) materially affects the ability of a Party to perform any material obligation under this Agreement, a Party may, on thirty (30) days' written notice (delivered not later than thirty (30) days following the date on which such action has become legally binding), require that the affected provision(s) be renegotiated, and the Parties shall renegotiate in good faith such mutually acceptable new provision(s) as may be required; provided that such affected provisions shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Agreement.

28.4 Interim Rates. If the rates, charges and prices set forth in this Agreement are "**interim rates**" established by the Commission or the FCC, the Parties agree to substitute such

interim rates with the rates, charges or prices later established by the Commission or the FCC pursuant to the pricing standards of Section 252 of the Act and such rates, charges and prices shall be effective as determined by the Commission or the FCC.

ARTICLE XXIX

MISCELLANEOUS

29.1 Authorization.

29.1.1 Ameritech Services, Inc. is a corporation duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of Delaware. Ameritech Information Industry Services, a division of Ameritech Services, Inc., has full power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to perform the obligations hereunder on behalf of and as agent for Ameritech Illinois.

29.1.2 Requesting Carrier is a corporation duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of Delaware and has full power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to perform its obligations hereunder. Requesting Carrier represents and warrants to Ameritech that it has been or will be certified as an LEC by the Commission prior to submitting any orders hereunder and is or will be authorized to provide in the State of Illinois the services contemplated hereunder prior to submission of orders for such service.

29.2 Designation of Affiliate. Each Party may without the consent of the other Party fulfill its obligations under this Agreement by itself or may cause its Affiliates to take some or all of such actions to fulfill such obligations. Upon such designation, the Affiliate shall become a primary obligor hereunder with respect to the delegated matter, but such designation shall not relieve the designating Party of its obligations as co-obligor hereunder. Any Party which elects to perform its obligations through an Affiliate shall cause its Affiliate to take all action necessary for the performance hereunder of such Party's obligations. Each Party represents and warrants that if an obligation under this Agreement is to be performed by an Affiliate, such Party has the authority to cause such Affiliate to perform such obligation and such Affiliate will have the resources required to accomplish the delegated performance.

29.3 Subcontracting. Either Party may subcontract the performance of its obligation under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other Party; provided, however, that the Party subcontracting such obligation shall remain fully responsible for (i) the performance of such obligation, (ii) payments due its subcontractors and (iii) such subcontractors' compliance with the terms, conditions and restrictions of this Agreement.

29.4 Independent Contractor. Each Party shall perform services hereunder as an independent contractor and nothing herein shall be construed as creating any other relationship

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between the Parties. Each Party and each Party's contractor shall be solely responsible for the withholding or payment of all applicable federal, state and local income taxes, social security taxes and other payroll taxes with respect to their employees, as well as any taxes, contributions or other obligations imposed by applicable state unemployment or workers' compensation acts. Each Party has sole authority and responsibility to hire, fire and otherwise control its employees.

29.5 Force Majeure. No Party shall be responsible for delays or failures in performance of any part of this Agreement (other than an obligation to make money payments) resulting from acts or occurrences beyond the reasonable control of such Party, including acts of nature, acts of civil or military authority, any law, order, regulation, ordinance of any government or legal body, embargoes, epidemics, terrorist acts, riots, insurrections, fires, explosions, earthquakes, nuclear accidents, floods, work stoppages, equipment failures, power blackouts, volcanic action, other major environmental disturbances, unusually severe weather conditions, inability to secure products or services of other persons or transportation facilities or acts or omissions of transportation carriers (individually or collectively, a "**Force Majeure Event**") or delays caused by the other Party or any other circumstances beyond the Party's reasonable control. If a Force Majeure Event shall occur, the Party affected shall give prompt notice to the other Party of such Force Majeure Event specifying the nature, date of inception and expected duration of such Force Majeure Event, whereupon such obligation or performance shall be suspended to the extent such Party is affected by such Force Majeure Event during the continuance thereof or be excused from such performance depending on the nature, severity and duration of such Force Majeure Event (and the other Party shall likewise be excused from performance of its obligations to the extent such Party's obligations relate to the performance so interfered with). The affected Party shall use its reasonable efforts to avoid or remove the cause of nonperformance and the Parties shall give like notice and proceed to perform with dispatch once the causes are removed or cease.

29.6 Governing Law. Unless otherwise provided by Applicable Law; this Agreement shall be governed by the domestic laws of the State of Illinois without reference to conflict of law provisions.

29.7 Taxes.

29.7.1 Each Party purchasing services hereunder shall pay or otherwise be responsible for all federal, state, or local sales, use, excise, gross receipts, transaction or similar taxes, fees or surcharges levied against or upon such purchasing Party (or the providing Party when such providing Party is permitted to pass along to the purchasing Party such taxes, fees or surcharges), except for any tax on either Party's corporate existence, status or income. Whenever possible, these amounts shall be billed as a separate item on the invoice. To the extent a sale is claimed to be for resale, the purchasing Party shall furnish the providing Party a proper resale tax exemption certificate as authorized or required by statute or regulation by the jurisdiction providing said resale tax exemption. Failure to timely provide said resale tax exemption certificate will result

in no exemption being available to the purchasing Party for any charges invoiced prior to the date such exemption certificate is furnished. To the extent that a Party includes gross receipts taxes in any of the charges or rates of services provided hereunder, no additional gross receipts taxes shall be levied against or upon the purchasing Party.

29.7.2 The Party obligated to pay any such taxes may contest the same in good faith, at its own expense, and shall be entitled to the benefit of any refund or recovery; provided that such contesting Party shall not permit any lien to exist on any asset of the other Party by reason of such contest. The Party obligated to collect and remit shall cooperate in any such contest by the other Party. As a condition of contesting any taxes due hereunder, the contesting Party agrees to be liable and indemnify and reimburse the other Party for any additional amounts that may be due by reason of such contest, including any interest and penalties.

29.8 Non-Assignment. (a) A Party may not assign or transfer (whether by operation of law or otherwise) this Agreement (or any rights or obligations hereunder) to a third person without the prior written consent of the other Party; provided that a Party may assign or transfer this Agreement to its Affiliate by providing prior written notice to the other Party of such assignment or transfer; provided, further, that such assignment is not inconsistent with Applicable Law (including, the Affiliate's obligation to obtain proper Commission certification and approvals) or the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Party may not assign or transfer this Agreement (or any rights or obligations hereunder) to its Affiliate if that Affiliate is a party to an agreement with the other Party under Sections 25 1/252 of the Act. Any attempted assignment or transfer that is not permitted is void ab initio.

(b) As a condition of any assignment or transfer of this Agreement (or any rights hereunder) that is permitted under, or consented to by Ameritech pursuant to, this **Section 29.8**, Requesting Carrier agrees to reimburse Ameritech for any costs incurred by Ameritech to accommodate or recognize under this Agreement the successor to or assignee of Requesting Carrier, including any requested or required (i) modification by Ameritech to its Operations Support Systems, databases, methods and procedures and records (e.g., billing, inventory, interfaces and etc.) and (ii) network/facilities rearrangement. Ameritech shall have no obligation to proceed with such activities until the Parties agree upon the charges that apply to such activities.

29.9 Non-Waiver. No waiver of any provision of this Agreement shall be effective unless the same shall be in writing and properly executed by or on behalf of the Party against whom such waiver or consent is claimed. Failure of either Party to insist on performance of any term or condition of this Agreement or to exercise any right or privilege hereunder shall not be construed as a continuing or future waiver of such term, condition, right or privilege.

29.10 Notices. Notices given by one Party to the other Party under this Agreement shall be in writing (unless specifically provided otherwise herein) and unless otherwise specifically

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required by this Agreement to be delivered to another representative or point of contact, shall be (a) delivered personally, (b) delivered by express delivery service, (c) mailed, certified mail or first class U.S. mail postage prepaid, return receipt requested or (d) delivered by facsimile; provided that a confirmation copy is sent by the method described in (a), (b) or (c) of this **Section 29.10**, to the following addresses of the Parties:

To Requesting Carrier:

Attn: _____
Facsimile: _____

with a copy to:

Requesting Carrier

Attn: _____
Facsimile: _____

To Ameritech:

Ameritech Information Industry Services
350 North Orleans, Floor 3
Chicago, IL 60654
Attn.: Vice President - Sales/Local Exchange Carriers
Facsimile: (3 12) 467-9026

with a copy to:

Ameritech Information Industry Services
350 North Orleans, Floor 5
Chicago, IL 60654
Attn.: Vice President and General Counsel
Facsimile: (3 12) 245-0254

or to such other address as either Party shall designate by proper notice. Notices will be deemed given as of the earlier of (i) the date of actual receipt, (ii) the next Business Day when notice is sent

via express mail or personal delivery, (iii) three (3) days after mailing in the case of first class or certified U.S. mail or (iv) on the date set forth on the confirmation in the case of facsimile.

29.11 Publicity and Use of Trademarks or Service Marks. Neither Party nor its subcontractors or agents shall use the other Party's trademarks, service marks, logos or other proprietary trade dress in any advertising, press releases, publicity matters or other promotional materials without such Party's prior written consent, except as permitted by Applicable Law.

29.12 Nonexclusive Dealings. This Agreement does not prevent either Party from providing or purchasing services to or from any other person nor does it obligate either Party to provide or purchase any services not specifically provided herein.

29.13 No Third Party Beneficiaries; Disclaimer of Agency. Except as may be specifically set forth in this Agreement, this Agreement is for the sole benefit of the Parties and their permitted assigns, and nothing herein express or implied shall create or be construed to create any third-party beneficiary rights hereunder. Nothing in this Agreement shall constitute a Party as a legal representative or agent of the other Party, nor shall a Party have the right or authority to assume, create or incur any liability or any obligation of any kind, express or implied, against or in the name or on behalf of the other Party unless otherwise expressly permitted by such other Party. No Party undertakes to perform any obligation of the other Party, whether regulatory or contractual, or to assume any responsibility for the management of the other Party's business.

29.14 No License. No license under patents, copyrights or any other Intellectual Property right (other than the limited license to use consistent with the terms, conditions and restrictions of this Agreement) is granted by either Party or shall be implied or arise by estoppel with respect to any transactions contemplated under this Agreement.

29.15 Survival. The Parties' obligations under this Agreement which by their nature are intended to continue beyond the termination or expiration of this Agreement shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement, including Articles XX, XXI, XXII, XXIV, and XXV, and Sections 3.9.4, 6.5, 10.11.3 16.15, 16.17, 19.5.3, 21.4, 27.2, 27.3, 29.7, 29.11, and 29.14.

29.16 Scope of Agreement. This Agreement is intended to describe and enable specific Interconnection and access to unbundled Network Elements and compensation arrangements between the Parties. Except as specifically contained herein or provided by the FCC or the Commission within its lawful jurisdiction, nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to affect any access charge arrangement.

29.17 Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original; but such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

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29.18 SBC Mergers. Ameritech and SBC Communications, Inc. have merged. By executing this Agreement, Requesting Carrier does not waive its right to receive any benefits provided by the stipulations or conditions adopted or otherwise acknowledged by the Commission or FCC in approving the Ameritech/SBC merger subject to the terms, conditions, and limitations set forth in such stipulations or conditions.

29.19 Stipulation Performance Measures. Upon receipt by Ameritech of a request from Requesting Carrier, the Parties will negotiate an amendment to the Agreement to revise or modify the affected provisions of this Agreement or to include any Agreed to Standards/Benchmarks, performance measurement reports and any remedies implemented by SBC/Ameritech, on the terms and conditions including the time frames set forth in the Stipulation which will be incorporated in this Agreement by reference. The parties agree that such implemented Agreed to Standards/Benchmarks, performance measurement reports and remedies will replace the same or similar performance measures, reports and remedies set forth in this Agreement.

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29.20 Entire Agreement. The terms contained in this Agreement and any Schedules, Exhibits, tariffs and other documents or instruments referred to herein, which are incorporated into this Agreement by this reference, constitute the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, superseding all prior understandings, proposals and other communications, oral or written. Specifically, the Parties expressly acknowledge that the rates, terms and conditions of this Agreement shall supersede those existing arrangements of the Parties, if any. This Agreement is the exclusive arrangement under which the Parties may purchase from each other the products and services described in Sections 25 1 and 271 of Act and, except as agreed upon in writing, neither Party shall be required to provide the other Party a product or service described in Sections 25 1 and 271 of the Act that is not specifically provided herein. Neither Party shall be bound by any terms additional to or different from those in this Agreement that may appear subsequently in the other Party's form documents, purchase orders, quotations, acknowledgments, invoices or other communications. This Agreement may only be modified by a writing signed by an officer of each Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused this Agreement to be executed as of the Effective Date.

FOCAL COMMUNICATIONS
CORPORATION OF ILLINOIS

AMERITECH INFORMATION
INDUSTRY SERVICES, A DIVISION
OF AMERITECH SERVICES, INC., ON
BEHALF OF AND AS AGENT FOR
AMERITECH ILLINOIS

By: _____
Printed: _____
Title: _____

By: _____
Printed: _____
Title: _____

SCHEDULE 1.2

DEFINITIONS

“800” means 800,888 and any other toll-free NPA established by the FCC.

“9-1-1” means the services described in Section 3.9.

“9-1-1 Control Office Software Enhancement Connection Charge” is as defined in Section 3.9.2(e).

“Access Toll Connecting Trunks” is as defined in Section 5.1.

“Act” means the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. § 151 et seq.), as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and as from time to time interpreted in the duly authorized rules and regulations of the FCC or the Commission having authority to interpret the Act within its state of jurisdiction.

“ADSL” or “Asymmetrical Digital Subscriber Line” means a transmission technology which transmits an asymmetrical digital signal using one of a variety of line codes.

“Advanced Intelligent Network” or “AIN” is a network functionality that permits specific conditions to be programmed into a switch which, when met, direct the switch to suspend call processing and to receive special instructions for further call handling instructions in order to enable carriers to offer advanced features and services.

“Affiliate” is As Defined in the Act.

“AMA” means the Automated Message Accounting structure inherent in switch technology that initially records telecommunication message information. AMA format is contained in the Automated Message Accounting document, published by Bellcore as GR-1100-CORE which defines the industry standard for message recording.

“Applicable Law” is as defined in Section 19.2.

“Approval Date” is the earlier of the date on which (i) the Commission approves this Agreement under Section 252(e) of the Act and (ii) absent such Commission approval, the Agreement is deemed approved under Section 252(e)(4) of the Act.

“As Defined in the Act” means as specifically defined by the Act and as from time to time interpreted in the duly authorized rules and regulations of the FCC or the Commission.

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“As Described in the Act” means as described in or required by the Act and as from time to time interpreted in the duly authorized rules and regulations of the FCC or the Commission.

“Automatic Location Identification” or **“ALI”** means a feature by which the service address associated with the calling party’s listed telephone number identified by ANI as defined herein, is forwarded to the PSAP for display. Additional telephones with the same number as the calling party’s, including secondary locations and off-premise extensions will be identified with the service address of the calling party’s listed number.

“Automatic Number Identification” or **“ANI”** means a Feature Group D signaling parameter which refers to the number transmitted through a network identifying the billing number of the calling party. With respect to 9-1-1 and E9-1-1, “ANI” means a feature by which the calling party’s telephone number is automatically forwarded to the E9-1-1 Control Office and to the PSAP display and transfer office.

“Automatic Route Selection” or **“ARS”** means a service feature associated with a specific grouping of lines that provides for automatic selection of the least expensive or most appropriate transmission facility for each call based on criteria programmed into the system.

“Bellcore” means Bell Communications Research, Inc.

“Binding Forecast” is as defined in **Section 19.5.3.**

“Blocking of Caller ID” means service in which a Customer may prevent the disclosure of the calling telephone number and name on calls made to an Exchange Service equipped with Called ID.

“BLV/BLVI Traffic” means an operator service call in which the caller inquires as to the busy status of or requests an interruption of a call on another Customer’s Telephone Exchange Service line.

“Bona Fide Request” means the process described on **Schedule 2.2.**

“Business Day” means a day on which banking institutions are required to be open for business in Chicago, Illinois.

“CABS” means the Carrier Access Billing System which is contained in a document prepared under the direction of the Billing Committee of the OBF. The Carrier Access Billing System document is published by Bellcore in Volumes 1, 1A, 2, 3, 3A, 4 and 5 as Special Reports SR-OPT-001868, SR-OPT-001869, SR-OPT-001871, SR-OPT-001872, SR-OPT-001873,

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SR-OPT-001874, and SR-OPT-001875, respectively, and contains the recommended guidelines for the billing of access and other connectivity services.

“Calling Party Number” or **“CPN”** is a Common Channel Interoffice Signaling (**“CCIS”**) parameter which refers to the number transmitted through a network identifying the calling party.

“Carrier of Record” is as defined in **Section 10.11.3.**

“CCS” means one hundred (100) call seconds,

“Central Office” means a building or space within a building (other than a remote switch) where transmission facilities and/or circuits are connected or switched.

“Central Office Switch” means a switch used to provide Telecommunications Services, including:

(a) **“End Office Switches,”** which are used to terminate Customer station Loops for the purpose of Interconnection to each other and to trunks; and

(b) **“Tandem Office Switches,”** or **“Tandems,”** which are used to connect and switch trunk circuits between and among other Central Office Switches.

A Central Office Switch may also be employed as a combination End Office/Tandem Office Switch.

“Centrex” means a Telecommunications Service associated with a specific grouping of lines that uses Central Office switching equipment for call routing to handle direct dialing of calls and to provide many private branch exchange-like features.

“CLASS Features” means certain CCIS-based features available to Customers including: Automatic Call Back; Caller Identification and related blocking features; Distinctive Ringing/Call Waiting; Selective Call Forward; and Selective Call Rejection.

“COBO” is as defined in **Section 12.12.2(b).**

“Collo Order” is as defined in **Section 12.12.1.**

“Collo Proposal” is as defined in **Schedule 12.12, Section 2.1..**

“Collo Response” is as defined in **Section 12.12.1.**

“Collocation” is As Described in the Act.

“Commercial Mobile Radio Service” or “CMRS” is As Defined in the Act.

“Commission” means the Illinois Commerce Commission.

“Common Channel Interoffice Signaling” or “CCIS” means the signaling system, developed for use between switching systems with stored-program control, in which all of the signaling information for one or more groups of trunks is transmitted over a dedicated high-speed data link rather than on a per-trunk basis and, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, the CCIS used by the Parties shall be SS7.

“Consequential Damages” is as defined in Section 25.5.

“Contract Month” means a calendar month (or portion thereof) during the term of this Agreement. Contract Month 1 shall commence on the first day of the first calendar month following the Effective Date and end on the last day of that calendar month.

“Contract Services” is as defined in Section 10.1.2.

“Contract Year” means a twelve (12)-month period during the term of this Agreement commencing on the Effective Date and each anniversary thereof.

“Control Office” means the Central Office providing Tandem Switching Capability for E9-1-1 calls. The Control Office controls switching of ANI information to the PSAP and also provides the Selective Routing feature, standard speed calling features, call transfer capability and certain maintenance functions for each PSAP.

“Cross-Connect” or “Cross Connection” means a connection provided pursuant to Collocation at the Digital Signal Cross Connect, Main Distribution Frame or other suitable frame or panel between (i) the collocated Party’s equipment and (ii) the equipment of a third-party collocated Telecommunications Carrier or the equipment or facilities (i.e., frame) of the other Party which provides such Collocation.

“Customer” means a third-party end user that subscribes to Telecommunications Services provided at retail by either of the Parties.

“Customer Listing(s)” means a list containing the names, the telephone numbers, addresses and zip codes of Customers within a defined geographical area, except to the extent such Customers have requested not to be listed in a directory.

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“Customer Name and Address Information” or **“CNA”** means the name, service address and telephone numbers of a Party’s Customers for a particular Exchange Area. CNA includes nonpublished listings, coin telephone information and published listings.

“Customer Proprietary Network Information” is As Defined in the Act.

“Customer Usage Data” is as defined in **Section 10.16.1**

“Data Management System” or **“DMS”** means a system of manual procedures and computer processes used to create, store and update the data required to provide the Selective Routing (**“SR”**) and ALI features.

“Delaying Event” means (a) any failure of a Party to perform any of its obligations set forth in this Agreement, caused in whole or in part by (i) the failure of the other Party to perform any of its obligations set forth in this Agreement (including, specifically, a Party’s failure to provide the other Party with accurate and complete Service Orders), or (ii) any delay, act or failure to act by the other Party or its Customer, agent or subcontractor or (b) any Force Majeure Event.

“Delivery Date” is as defined in **Sections 12.12.2(b)** and **12.12.3(c)**.

“Derivative Information” is as defined in **Section 20.1.1(b)**

“Dialing Parity” is As Defined in the Act.

“Digital Signal Level” means one of several transmission rates in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.

“Digital Signal Level 0” or **“DSO”** means the 64 Kbps zero-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.

“Digital Signal Level 1” or **“DS1”** means the 1.544 Mbps first-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy. In the time-division multiplexing hierarchy of the telephone network, DS1 is the initial level of multiplexing.

“Digital Signal Level 3” or **“DS3”** means the 44.736 Mbps third-level in the time-division multiplex hierarchy. In the time-division multiplexing hierarchy of the telephone network, DS3 is defined as the third level of multiplexing.

“Disclosing Party” is as defined in **Section 20.1.1**.

“Dispute” is as defined in **Section 27.3**.

“Disputed Amounts” is as defined in **Section 27.2.1.**

“Documentation of Authorization” is as defined in **Schedule 10.11.1.**

“DSL” means Digital Subscriber Line.

“Effective Date” is the date indicated in the Preamble.

“Emergency Services” mean police, fire, ambulance, rescue and medical services.

“E9-1-1” or **“Enhanced 9-1-1 (E9-1-1) Service”** provides completion of 9-1-1 calls via dedicated trunking facilities and includes Automatic Number Identification (ANI), Automatic Location Identification (ALI) and/or Selective Routing (SR).

“equal in quality” is as defined in **Section 3.6.**

“Exchange Access” is As Defined in the Act.

“Exchange Area” means an area, defined by the Commission, for which a distinct local rate schedule is in effect.

“Exchange Message Record” or **“EMR”** means the standard used for exchange of Telecommunications message information among Telecommunications providers for billable, non-billable, sample, settlement and study data. EMR format is contained in Bellcore Practice BR-01 0-200-010 CRTS Exchange Message Record.

“FCC” means the Federal Communications Commission.

“Fiber-Meet” means an Interconnectionarchitecturemethod whereby the Parties physically Interconnect their networks via an optical fiber interface (as opposed to an electrical interface) at a mutually agreed upon location, at which one Party’s responsibility or service begins and the other Party’s responsibility ends,

“Force Majeure Event” is as defined in **Section 29.5.**

“Forecast Provider” is as defined in **Section 19.5.3.**

“Grandfathered Services” is as defined in **Section 10.3.1.**

“Hazardous Substances” is as defined in **Section 19.4.**

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“HDSL” or “High-Bit Rate Digital Subscriber Line” means a transmission technology which transmits up to a DS1-level signal, using any one of the following line codes: 2 Binary / 1 Quaternary (**“2B1Q”**), Carrierless AM/PM, Discrete Multitone (**“DMT”**), or 3 Binary / 1 Octel (**“3B1O”**).

“Implementation Plan” is as defined in **Section 18.2.**

“Implementation Team” is as defined in **Section 18.1.**

“Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier” or “ILEC” is As Defined in the Act. **“Information Service”** is As Defined in the Act.

“Information Service Traffic” means Local Traffic or IntraLATA Toll Traffic which originates on a Telephone Exchange Service line and which is addressed to an information service provided over a Party’s Information Services platform (e.g., 976).

“Initial Term” is as defined in **Section 21.1.**

“Insufficient Capacity” is as defined in **Section 16.1.2.**

“Integrated Digital Loop Carrier” means a subscriber loop carrier system that is twenty-four (24) local Loop transmission paths combined into a 1.544 Mbps digital signal which integrates within the switch at a DS1 level.

“Integrated Services Digital Network” or “ISDN” means a switched network service that provides end-to-end digital connectivity for the simultaneous transmission of voice and data. Basic Rate Interface-ISDN (BRI-ISDN) provides for a digital transmission of two 64 Kbps bearer channels and one 16 Kbps data channel (2B+D).

“Intellectual Property” means copyrights, patents, trademarks, trade-secrets, mask works and all other intellectual property rights.

“Interconnection” is As Defined in the Act.

“Interconnection Activation Date” is as defined in **Section 2.1.**

“Interexchange Carrier” or “IXC” means a carrier that provides interLATA or intraLATA Telephone Toll Services.

“Interim Telecommunications Number Portability” or “INP” is as described in the Act.

“InterLATA” is As Defined in the Act.

“IntraLATA Toll Traffic” means all intraLATA calls other than Local Traffic calls.

“Internet Service Provider (“ISP”) is an enhanced service provider that provides internet service.

“Line Information Database(s) (LIDB)” means one or all, as the context may require, of the Line Information Databases owned individually by ILECs and other entities which provide, among other things, calling card validation functionality for telephone line number cards issued by ILECs and other entities. A LIDB also contains validation data for collect and third number-billed calls, which include billed number screening.

“Listing Update(s)” means information with respect to Customers necessary for Publisher to publish directories under this Agreement in a form and format acceptable to Publisher. For Customers whose telephone service has changed since the last furnished Listing Update because of new installation, disconnection, change in address, change in name, change in non-listed or non-published status, or other change which may affect the listing of the Customer in a directory, Listing Updates shall also include information necessary in order for Publisher to undertake initial delivery and subsequent delivery of directories, including mailing addresses, delivery addresses and quantities of directories requested by a Customer. In the case of Customers who have transferred service from another LEC to Requesting Carrier without change of address, Listing Updates shall also include the Customer’s former listed telephone number and former LEC, if available. Similarly, in the case of Customers who have transferred service from Requesting Carrier to another LEC, Listing Updates shall also include the Customer’s referral telephone number and new LEC, if available.

“Local Access and Transport Area” or “LATA” is As Defined in the Act.

“Local Exchange Carrier” or “LEC” is As Defined in the Act.

“Local Loop Transmission,” “Unbundled Local Loop” or “Loop” means the transmission path which extends from the Network Interface Device or demarcation point at a Customer’s premises to the Main Distribution Frame or other designated frame or panel in the Ameritech Serving Wire Center. Loops are defined by the electrical interface rather than the type of facility used.

“Local Number Portability” means the ability of users of Telecommunications Services to retain, at the same location, existing telephone numbers without impairment of quality, reliability, or convenience when switching from one Telecommunications Carrier to another.

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“Local Traffic” means a call the distance of which is fifteen (15) miles or less as calculated by using the V&H coordinates of the originating NXX and the V&H coordinates of the terminating NXX or as otherwise determined by the FCC or Commission for purposes of Reciprocal Compensation; provided, that in no event shall a Local Traffic call be greater than fifteen (15) miles as so calculated; provided further, that in no event shall Local Traffic include any traffic originated on a Party’s physical switch, is transported and handed off to the other Party and then routed/delivered to an ISP Server.

“Logical Trunk Groups” are trunks established consistent with Articles IV and V that originate at one Party’s Central Office and terminate at the other Party’s Tandem or End Office. Such Logical Trunk Groups are switched only at the point where such Logical Trunk Groups terminate.

“Loss” or **“Losses”** means any and all losses, costs (including court costs), claims, damages (including fines, penalties, and criminal or civil judgments and settlements), injuries, liabilities and expenses (including attorneys’ fees).

“Main Distribution Frame” means the distribution frame of the Party providing the Loop used to interconnect cable pairs and line and trunk equipment terminals on a switching system.

“Make-Ready Work” means all work, including rearrangement or transfer of existing facilities or other changes required to accommodate Requesting Carrier’s Attachments.

“MECAB” refers to the Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing (MECAB) document prepared by the Billing Committee of the Ordering and Billing Forum (OBF), which functions under the auspices of the Carrier Liaison Committee (CLC) of the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS). The MECAB document published by Bellcore as Special Report SR-BDS-000983 contains the recommended guidelines for the billing of an access service provided by two or more LECs, or by one LEC in two or more states within a single LATA.

“Meet-Point Billing” means the process whereby each Party bills the appropriate tariffed rate for its portion of a jointly provided Switched Exchange Access Service.

“Multiple Bill/Single Tariff” means that each Party will prepare and render its own meet point bill in accordance with its own tariff for its portion of the switched access service.

“Network Element” is As Defined in the Act.

“Non-Electronic Order” is as defined in Section 10.13.2(b).

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“North American Numbering Plan” or **“NANP”** means the numbering plan used in the United States that also serves Canada, Bermuda, Puerto Rico and certain Caribbean Islands. The NANP format is a 1 O-digit number that consists of a 3-digit NPA code (commonly referred to as the area code), followed by a 3-digit NXX code and 4-digit line number.

“Number Portability” is As Defined in the Act

“NXX” means the three-digit code which appears as the first three digits of a seven-digit telephone number.

“OBF” means the Ordering and Billing Forum (OBF), which functions under the auspices of the Carrier Liaison Committee (CLC) of the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS).

“Occupancy Date” is as defined in Section 12.12.2(e).

“Optical Line Terminating Multiplexor” or **“OLTM”** is as defined in Section 3.3.

“Party” means either Ameritech or Requesting Carrier, and **“Parties”** means Ameritech and Requesting Carrier.

“Physical Collocation” is As Defined in the Act.

“PIC” is as defined in Section 10.11.4.

“Plan” is as defined in Section 8.1.

“Premises” is As Defined in the Act.

“Preparation Charges” means those charges applicable to the preparation of Ameritech’s Premises for Collocation, including any Central Office Build-Out (COBO) charges, cage enclosure charges and extraordinary charges.

“Primary Listing” means the single directory listing provided to Customers by Publisher under the terms of this Agreement. Each telephone configuration that allows a terminating call to hunt for an available time among a series of lines shall be considered a single Customer entitled to a single primary listing. Ameritech will publish the Primary Listing of Requesting Carrier’s Wireless Customers’ listing at no charge provided that Wireless Customer’s listing NPA/NXX and service address fall within an identifiable Ameritech exchange. If the Customer’s listing NPA/NXX and service address does not fall within an identifiable Ameritech exchange, Requesting Carrier will pay the applicable white page directory rate for that Primary Listing as well as all other Listings in

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addition to the Primary Listing. For resold Centrex Service, Ameritech will furnish one (1) Primary Listing for each resold Centrex System. For other resold services, Ameritech will furnish Primary Listings, if any, as described in the applicable tariffs or Ameritech Catalog.

“Proprietary Information” is as defined in Section 20.1.1.

“Provisioning EP” is as defined in Section 10.13.2(a)

“Public Safety Answering Point” or **“PSAP”** means an answering location for 9-1-1 calls originating in a given area. A PSAP may be designated as Primary or Secondary, which refers to the order in which calls are directed for answering. Primary PSAPs respond first; Secondary PSAPs receive calls on a transfer basis only, and generally serve as a centralized answering location for a particular type of emergency call. PSAPs are staffed by employees of Service Agencies such as police, fire or emergency medical agencies or by employees of a common bureau serving a group of such entities.

“Publisher” means Ameritech’s White Pages Directories publisher.

“Rate Center” means the specific geographic point which has been designated by a given LEC as being associated with a particular NPA-NXX code which has been assigned to the LEC for its provision of Telephone Exchange Service. The Rate Center is the finite geographic point identified by a specific V&H coordinate, which is used by that LEC to measure, for billing purposes, distance sensitive transmission services associated with the specific Rate Center; provided that a Rate Center cannot exceed the boundaries of an Exchange Area as defined by the Commission.

“Receiving Party” is as defined in Section 20.1.1.

“Reciprocal Compensation” is As Described in the Act.

“Referral Announcement” is as defined in Article XVII.

“Renewal Term” is as defined in Section 21.1.

“Requesting Carrier Directory Customer” is as defined in Section 15.1.

“Resale Implementation Questionnaire” means that certain document that contains Requesting Carrier information that allows Ameritech to populate its systems and tables so that Requesting Carrier can be established in Ameritech’s internal system, a copy of which has been provided to Requesting Carrier.

“Resale Services” is as defined in Section 10.1.

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“Resale Tariff” means individually and collectively the effective tariff or tariffs filed by Ameritech with the Commission that sets forth certain relevant terms and conditions relating to Ameritech’s resale of certain local exchange Telecommunications Services within the Territory, including the applicable provisions of ICC No. 20, Part 22 and ICC No. 19, Part 22.

“Routing Point” means a location which a LEC has designated on its own network as the homing (routing) point for inbound traffic to one or more of its NPA-NXX codes. The Routing Point is also used to calculate mileage measurements for the distance-sensitive transport element charges of Switched Exchange Access Services. Pursuant to **Belcore Practice BR 795-1 00-1 00** (the **“RP Practice”**), the Routing Point (referred to as the **“Rating Point”** in such RP Practice) may be an End Office Switch location, or a **“LEC Consortium Point of Interconnection”**. Pursuant to such RP Practice, each **“LEC Consortium Point of Interconnection”** shall be designated by a common language location identifier (CLLI) code with (x)KD in positions 9, 10 and 11, where (x) may be any alphanumeric A-Z or O-9. The Routing Point must be located within the LATA in which the corresponding NPA-NXX is located. However, Routing Points associated with each NPA-NXX need not be the same as the corresponding Rate Center, nor must there be a unique and separate Routing Point corresponding to each unique and separate Rate Center; provided only that the Routing Point associated with a given NPA-NXX must be located in the same LATA as the Rate Center associated with the NPA-NXX.

“Selective Routing” or **“SR”** means an E9-1-1 feature that routes an E9-1-1 call from a Control Office to the designated Primary PSAP based upon the identified number of the calling party.

“Service Agency” means the public agency, the State or any local government unit or special purpose district which has the authority to provide police, fire fighting, medical or other emergency services, which has requested the local telephone company to provide an E9-1-1 Telecommunications Service for the purpose of voice-reporting emergencies by the public.

“Service Control Point” or **“SCP”** is As Defined in the Act.

“Service Line” means a telecommunications link from the Central Office terminating at the PSAP.

“Service Start Date” means the later of the following: (i) the date after which Requesting Carrier has been certified as a LEC by the Commission and is authorized in the state of Illinois to provide the local Telephone Exchange Services contemplated under this Agreement (ii) the date Requesting Carrier has completed and delivered to Ameritech the Resale Implementation Questionnaire and Ameritech has populated its billing systems with the information contained therein and (iii) the date on which the Parties mutually agree that Ameritech shall begin to provision services in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement or (iv) the date on which (x)

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the Commission approves this Agreement under Section 252(e) of the Act or (y) absent such Commission approval, this Agreement is deemed approved under 252(e)(4) of the Act.

“Serving Wire Center” means the Ameritech Wire Center which would normally serve the Customer location with Ameritech’s basic exchange service.

“Signal Transfer Point” or **“STP”** is As Defined in the Act.

“Sunsetted Services” is as defined in Section 10.3.2.

“Switched Access Detail Usage Data” means a category 1101XX record as defined in the EMR Bellcore Practice BR 010-200-010.

“Switched Access Summary Usage Data” means a category 1150XX record as defined in the EMR Bellcore Practice BR 010-200-010.

“Switched Exchange Access Service” means the offering of transmission or switching services to Telecommunications Carriers for the purpose of the origination or termination of Telephone Toll Service. Switched Exchange Access Services include: Feature Group A, Feature Group B, Feature Group D, 800/888 access, and 900 access and their successors or similar Switched Exchange Access Services.

“Synchronous Optical Network” or **“SONET”** means an optical interface standard that allows inter-networking of transmission products from multiple vendors, The base rate is 51.84 Mbps (OC-1/STS-1) and higher rates are direct multiples of the base rate, up to 13.22 Gpbs.

“Technical Reference Schedule” is the list of technical references set forth in Schedule 2.3.

“technically feasible point” is As Described in the Act.

“Telecommunications” is As Defined in the Act.

“Telecommunications Act” means the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and any rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

“Telecommunications Assistance Program” means any means-tested or subsidized Telecommunications Service offering, including Lifeline, that is offered only to a specific category of subscribers.

“Telecommunications Carrier” is As Defined in the Act.

“Telecommunications Service” is As Defined in the Act.

“Telephone Exchange Service” is As Defined in the Act.

“Telephone Relay Service” means a service provided to speech and hearing-impaired callers that enables such callers to type a message into a telephone set equipped with a keypad and message screen and to have a live operator read the message to a recipient and to type message recipient’s response to the speech or hearing-impaired caller.

“Telephone Toll Service” is As Defined in the Act.

“Unauthorized Switching” is as defined in **Section 10.11.2(a)**.

“Unused Space” means any space (i) existing in Ameritech’s Premises at the time of a Collocation request, (ii) that is not subject to a valid space reservation (by Ameritech or any third party), (iii) that is not being used by Ameritech for a purpose other than to house its network facilities (e.g., utilized administrative space (including offices, common areas, conference rooms, reasonable storage and etc.) bathrooms, hallways (ingress and egress), and etc.), and (iv) on or in which the placement of any equipment or network facilities (Ameritech’s or Requesting Carrier’s) would not (x) violate any local or state law, rule or ordinance (e.g., fire, OSHA or zoning) or technical standards (performance or safety) or (y) void Ameritech’s warranty on proximate equipment.

“Virtual Collocation” is As Defined in the Act.

“White Pages Directories” means directories or the portion of co-bound directories which include a list in alphabetical order by name of the telephone numbers and addresses of telecommunication company customers.

“Wire Center” means the Premises of a Party at which all Local Loops within a defined geographic area are converged. Such Local Loops may be served by one (1) or more Central Office Switches within such Premises.

SCHEDULE 2.1
IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
Illinois

1. Interconnection

||

	Ameritech Interconnection Central Office (AICO)	Requesting Carrier Interconnection Central Office (RICO)	Interconnection Activation Date*
LATA			

||

2. Access to unbundled Network Elements.

* Notwithstanding anything contrary in this Agreement, compliance with the Interconnection Activation Dates shall be subject to the requirements of Section 3.4.3 and any Requesting Carrier Delaying Event.

SCHEDULE 2.2

BONA FIDE REQUEST

1. Ameritech shall promptly consider and analyze the submission of a Bona Fide Request that Ameritech provide: (a) Interconnection or access to an unbundled Network Element not otherwise provided hereunder at the time of such request; or (b) a customized service for features, capabilities, functionalities of an unbundled Network Element not otherwise provided hereunder at the time of such request.

2. A Bona Fide Request shall be submitted in writing on the Bona Fide Request Form attached hereto as Attachment 1 and, if applicable, shall include Requesting Carrier's \$2,000 deposit described in **Section 6**.

3. Within five (5) Business Days of its receipt, Ameritech shall acknowledge receipt of the Bona Fide Request.

4. Within thirty (30) days (the "**Preliminary Analysis Period**") of its receipt of all information required to be provided on the Bona Fide Request Form, Ameritech shall provide to Requesting Carrier a preliminary analysis (the "**Preliminary Analysis**") of such Interconnection, access to such Network Element or customized feature, capability or functionality that is the subject of the Bona Fide Request. The Preliminary Analysis shall confirm that Ameritech will either offer access to the Interconnection, Network Element or customized service or will provide a detailed explanation that access to such Interconnection, Network Element or customized service is not technically feasible and/or that the request is not required to be provided under the Act. If Ameritech determines that the requested Interconnection, access to the Network Element or customized service that is the subject of the Bona Fide Request is technically feasible and is otherwise required to be provided under the Act, Ameritech shall provide Requesting Carrier a price quote and estimated availability date for such development ("**Bona Fide Request Quote**"). Ameritech shall provide a Bona Fide Request Quote as soon as feasible, but in any event not more than one hundred twenty (120) days from the date Ameritech received such Bona Fide Request.

5. Within thirty (30) Business Days of its receipt of the Bona Fide Request Quote, the Requesting Carrier must either confirm its order pursuant to the Bona Fide Request Quote or, if it believes such quote is inconsistent with the requirements of the Act, exercise its rights under **Section 27.3**.

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6. When submitting a Bona Fide Request, Requesting Carrier has two options to compensate Ameritech for its costs incurred to complete the Preliminary Analysis of the Bona Fide Request during the Preliminary Analysis Period. Requesting Carrier may either:

- (a). Include a \$2,000 deposit to cover Ameritech's preliminary evaluation costs and Ameritech will guarantee that the preliminary evaluation costs incurred during the Preliminary Analysis Period will not exceed \$2,000, or
- (b). Not make any deposit and pay the total preliminary evaluation costs incurred by Ameritech during the Preliminary Analysis Period.

Should Ameritech not be able to process the Bona Fide Request or determine that the request does not qualify for Bona Fide Request treatment, Ameritech will return the \$2,000 deposit to Requesting Carrier. Similarly, if the costs incurred to complete the Preliminary Analysis are less than \$2,000, the balance of the deposit will, at the option of Requesting Carrier, either be refunded or credited toward additional development costs authorized by Requesting Carrier.

7. Requesting Carrier may cancel a Bona Fide Request at any time, but shall pay Ameritech's reasonable costs of processing and/or implementing the Bona Fide Request up to the date of cancellation.

8. Unless Requesting Carrier agrees otherwise, all prices shall be consistent with the pricing principles of the Act, FCC and/or the Commission.

9. If a Party to a Bona Fide Request believes that the other Party is not requesting, negotiating, or processing the Bona Fide Request in good faith, or disputes a determination, or price or cost quote, such Party may exercise its rights under **Section 27.3.**

FORM OF
BONA FIDE REQUEST FORM

Attachment 1

1) Requested by

(Company Name)

(Address)

(Contact Person)

(Facsimile Number)

(Phone Number)

(Date of Request)

(Optional: E-Mail Address)

2) Technical description of the requested Interconnection, access to an unbundled network element, dialing parity arrangement, collocation arrangement or service (the "Request") (use additional sheets of paper, if necessary).

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- 3) Is the Request a modification of(i) existing services or (ii) existing access to an unbundled network element? If so, please explain the modification and describe the existing services or element(s) or indicate its name.

- 4) Is the Request currently available from Ameritech or any other source? If yes, please provide source's name (including Ameritech) and the name of the offering (e.g., service, access to unbundled network element or etc.).

- 5) Is there anything custom or specific about the manner that you would like this Request to operate?

- 6) If possible, please include a drawing or illustration of how you would like the Request to operate and/or interface with Ameritech's network, premises or other facilities.

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- 7) Please describe the expected location life, if applicable, of the Request (i.e., period of time you will use it). Do you view this as a temporary or long range arrangement?

- 8) If you wish to submit this information on a non-disclosure basis, please indicate so here. If non-disclosure is requested, properly identify any information you consider confidential, if and as required by **Article XX** of your applicable Interconnection Agreement.

- 9) List the specific Central Offices and/or Wire Centers or other points of Interconnection or access where you want the Request deployed (use additional sheets of paper, if necessary).

- 10) What is the expected demand of the Request for each location (e.g., estimated number of customers, subscriber lines, number of units to be ordered)?

Location

Estimate of demand/units

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- 11) What are the pricing assumptions? In order to potentially obtain lower non-recurring or recurring charges, you may specify quantity and/or term commitments you are willing to make. Please provide any price/quantity forecast indicating one or more desired pricing points (use additional sheets, if necessary).

- 12) Please indicate any other information that could assist Ameritech to evaluate your Request (use additional sheets of paper, if necessary).

- 13) Please classify the nature of your Request (Check one).

- ☐ Request for Interconnection.
- ☐ Request for access to an unbundled network that is not currently provided to you.
- ☐ Request for Collocation where there is no space available for either Physical Collocation or Virtual Collocation in the requested Ameritech Central Office.
- ☐ Request for a new or custom dialing parity arrangement.
- ☐ New service or capability that does not fit into any of the above categories.

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- 14) What problem or issue do you wish to solve? If your Request were unavailable, how would it impair your ability to provide service?

- 15) Preliminary analysis cost payment option (Check one).

- ☐ \$2000 deposit included with Request; provided, that the responsibility of [Requesting Carrier] for Ameritech's costs for Ameritech's Preliminary Analysis shall not exceed this deposit.
- ☐ No deposit is made and [Requesting Carrier] agrees to pay Ameritech's total Preliminary Analysis costs incurred up to and including the date Ameritech receives notice of cancellation.

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By submitting this Request, [Requesting Carrier] agrees to promptly compensate Ameritech for any costs it incurs to process this Request, including costs to analyze, develop, provision, and price the Request, up to and including the date the Ameritech BFR Manager receives our written cancellation. [Requesting Carrier] also agrees to compensate Ameritech for any costs incurred by Ameritech if [Requesting Carrier] fails to authorize Ameritech to proceed with development of the Request within 30 days of receipt of the 30-day notification, or Requesting Carrier fails to order the Request within 30 days, in accordance with the final product quotation.

[Requesting Carrier]

SCHEDULE 2.3

TECHNICAL REFERENCE SCHEDULE

Unbundled Local Network Elements

Unbundled Local Loop Transmission

Bellcore TA-NWT-000393
ANSI T1.413-1995 Specifications, updated (1998) Issue 2
AM TR-TMO-000 122
AM TR-TMO-000 123
Bellcore TR-NWT-000393
ANSI T1. 102-1 993, American National Standard for Telecommunication-Digital Hierarchy
- Electrical Interfaces
Bellcore Technical Requirement TR-NWT-000499, Issue 5, December 1993, section 7
ANSI T1E1 Committee Technical report Number 28
ANSI T1.601-1998 for ISDN.

Interoffice Transmission Facilities

AM TR-NIS-000111
AM RT-NIS 000133
ANSI T1. 101-1 994, American National Standard for Telecommunications -Synchronization
Interface Standard Performance and Availability
ANSI T1.102-1993, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital
Hierarchy - Electrical Interfaces
ANSI T1. 105-1995, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Synchronous
Optical Network (SONET) - Basic Description including Multiplex Structure, Rates
and Formats
ANSI T1.105.01-1995, American National Standard for Telecommunications -Synchronous
Optical Network (SONET) - Automatic Protection Switching
ANSI T1. 105.02-1 995, American National Standard for Telecommunications-Synchronous
Optical Network (SONET) - Payload Mappings
ANSI T1. 105.03-1 994, American National Standard for Telecommunications-Synchronous
Optical Network (SONET) - Jitter at Network Interfaces
ANSI T1.105.03a-1995, American National Standard for Telecommunications-Synchronous
Optical Network (SONET): Jitter at Network Interfaces - DS1 Supplement

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ANSI T1. 105.04-1 995, American National Standard for Telecommunications -Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) - Data Communication Channel Protocols and Architectures

ANSI T1.105.05-1994, American National Standard for Telecommunications -Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) - Tandem Connection

ANSI T1.106-1988, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Optical Interface Specifications (Single Mode)

ANSI T1.107-1988, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Formats Specifications

ANSI T1. 107a-1990, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Supplement to Formats Specifications (DS3 Format Applications)

ANSI T1 .107b-1991, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Supplement to Formats Specifications

ANSI T1 ,117-1 991, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy -Optical Interface Specifications (SONET) (Single Mode - Short Reach)

ANSI T1. 119-1 994, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) - Operations, Administration, Maintenance, and Provisioning (OAM&P) Communications

ANSI T1.119.01-1995,American National Standard for Telecommunications -Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) - Operations, Administration, Maintenance, and Provisioning (OAM&P) Communications Protection Switching Fragment

ANSI T1. 119.02-1 99x, American National Standard for Telecommunications -Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) - Operations, Administration, Maintenance, and Provisioning (OAM&P) Communications Performance Monitoring Fragment

ANSI T1.23 1- 1993, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Layer 1 In-Service Digital Transmission performance monitoring

ANSI T1.403-1989, Carrier to Customer Installation, DS1 Metallic Interface Specification

ANSI T1.404-1994, Network-to-Customer Installation - DS3 Metallic Interface Specification

Bellcore FR-440 and TR-NWT-000499, Transport Systems Generic Requirements (TSGR): Common Requirements

Bellcore GR-820-CORE, Generic Transmission Surveillance: DS1 & DS3 Performance

Bellcore GR-253-CORE, Synchronous Optical Network Systems (SONET); Common Generic Criteria

Bellcore TR-NWT 000507, Transmission, Section 7, Issue 5 (Bellcore, December 1993). (A module of LSSGR, FR-NWT-000064.)

Bellcore TR-NWT-000776, Network Interface Description for ISDN Customer Access

Bellcore TR-INS-000342, High-Capacity Digital Special Access Service-Transmission Parameter Limits and Interface Combinations, Issue 1, February 1991

Performance Standards

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Belcore TR-NWT-000418, Issue 2, December 1992, Generic Reliability Assurance Requirements For Fiber Optic Transport Systems
Belcore TR-NWT-000057, Issue 2, January 1993, Functional Criteria for Digital Loop Carriers Systems
Belcore TR-NWT-000393, January 1991, Generic Requirements for ISDN Basic Access Digital Subscriber Lines
Belcore TR-NWT-000909, December 1991, Generic Requirements and Objectives for Fiber In The Loop Systems
Belcore TR-NWT-000505, Issue 3, May 1991, LSSGR Section 5, Call Processing
Belcore TR-NWT-001244, Clocks for the Synchronized Network: Common Generic Criteria
ANSI T1.105-1995

Interconnection

Trunkline Interconnection

GR-317-CORE, Switching System generic requirements for Call Control Using the Integrated Services Digital Network User Part (ISDNUP), Bellcore, February, 1994
GR-394-CORE, Switching System generic requirements for Interexchange Carrier Interconnection Using the Integrated Services Digital Network User Part (ISDNUP), Bellcore, February, 1994
FR-NWT-000064, LATA Switching Systems Generic Requirements (LSSGR), Bellcore, 1994 Edition
ANSI T1.111
ANSI T1.112
ANSI T1.113
Bellcore GR-905-CORE, Common Channel Signaling Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Network Interconnection, Message Transfer Part (MTP), and Integrated Services Digital Network User Part (ISDNUP)
Bellcore GR-1428-CORE, CCS Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Toll-Free Service
Bellcore GR-1429-CORE, CCS Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Call Management Services
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ANSI T1.110-1992, American National Standard Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - General Information:
ANSI T1.111-1992, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Message Transfer Part (MTP)
ANSI T1.111A-1994, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Message Transfer Part (MTP) Supplement
ANSI T1.112-1992, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Signaling Connection Control Part (SCCP)
ANSI T1.113-1995, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) User Part
ANSI T1.114-1992, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Transaction Capabilities Application Part (TCAP)
ANSI T1.115- 1990, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Monitoring and Measurements for Networks
ANSI T1.116- 1990, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Operations, Maintenance and Administration Part (OMAP)
ANSI T1.118-1992, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Intermediate Signaling Network Identification (ISNI)
Bellcore GR-905-CORE, Common Channel Signaling Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Network Interconnection, Message Transfer Part (MTP), and Integrated Services Digital Network User Part (ISDNUP)
Bellcore GR-954-CORE, CCS Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Line Information Database (LIDB) Service
Bellcore Special Report SR-TSV-002275, BOC Notes on the LEC Networks-Signaling
Ameritech Supplement AM-TR-OAT-000069, Common Channel Signaling Network Interface Specifications
Bellcore Standard FR-NWT-000476
ANSI Standard T1.206

Electrical/Optical Interfaces

Bellcore Technical Publication TR-INS-000342, High Capacity Digital Special Access Service, Transmission Parameter Limits and Interface Combinations;
Ameritech Technical Publication TR-NIS-000111, Ameritech OC3, OC 12 and OC48 Service Interface Specifications; and
Ameritech Technical Publication AM-TR-NIS-000133, Ameritech OC3, OC12 and OC48 Dedicated Ring Service Interface Specifications.

Collocation

Bellcore Network Equipment Building Systems (NEBS) standards TR-EOP-000063

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National Electrical Code (NEC) use latest issue
TA-NPL-000286, NEBS Generic Engineering Requirements for System Assembly and Cable Distribution, Issue 2 (Bellcore, January 1989)
TR-EOP-000063, Network Equipment-Building System (NEBS) Generic Equipment Requirements, Issue 3, March 1988
TR-NWT-000840, Supplier Support Generic Requirements (SSGR), (A Module of LSSGR, FR-NWT-000064), Issue 1 (Bellcore, December 1991)
TR-NWT-001275 Central Office Environment Installations/Removal Generic Requirements, Issue 1, January 1993
Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Standard 383, IEEE Standard for Type Test of Class 1 E Electrical Cables, Field Splices, and Connections for Nuclear Power Generating Stations
National Electrical Code (NEC) use latest issue
TA-NPL-000286, NEBS Generic Engineering Requirements for System Assembly and Cable Distribution, Issue 2 (Bellcore, January 1989)
TR-EOP-000063, Network Equipment-Building System (NEBS) Generic Equipment Requirements, Issue 3, March 1988
TR-EOP-000151, Generic Requirements for 24-, 48-, 130- and 140- Volt Central Office Power Plant Rectifiers, Issue 1 (Bellcore, May 1985)
TR-EOP-000232, General Requirements for Lead-Acid Storage Batteries, Issue 1 (Bellcore, June 1985)
TR-NWT-000154, General Requirements for 24-, 48-, 130-, and 140- Volt Central Office Power Plant Control and Distribution Equipment, Issue 2 (Bellcore, January 1992)
TR-NWT-000295, Isolated Ground Planes: Definition and Application to Telephone Central Offices, Issue 2 (Bellcore, July 1992)
TR-NWT-000840, Supplier Support Generic Requirements (SSGR), (A Module of LSSGR, FR-NWT-000064), Issue 1 (Bellcore, December 1991)
TR-NWT-001275, Central Office Environment Installations/Removal Generic Requirements, Issue 1, January 1993
Underwriters' Laboratories Standard, UL 94

Lona Term Number Portability (LNP)

T1 Technical Requirements No. 1, April 1999, Technical Requirements for Number Portability {{SPA}} Operator Services Switching Systems
T1 Technical Requirements No. 2, April 1999, Technical Requirements for Number Portability {{SPA}} Switching Systems
T1 Technical Requirements No. 3, April 1999, Technical Requirements for Number Portability {{SPA}} Database and Global Title Translation

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T1 Technical Requirements No. 4, July 1999, Technical Requirements for Number Pooling
Using Number Portability

ANSI T1.113-1995, American National Standard for Telecommunications • Signalling
System No. 7 (SS7) • Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) User Part

ANSI T1.660-1998, American National Standard for Telecommunications {{SPA}}
Signalling System No. 7 (SS7) • Call Completion to a Portable Number • Integrated
Text

ANSI T1.667- 1999, American National Standard for Telecommunications • Intelligent
Network

SCHEDULE 3.8

INTERCONNECTION PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS

1.0 Trunk Provisioning Intervals

1.1	Number of End Office <u>Trunks Per Order Per Day</u>	<u>Interval</u>
	1-48	14 days
	49-96	15 days
	97 +	Negotiated
1.2	<u>New Trunk Groups to Tandem(s)</u>	Negotiated

2.0 Trunking Grade of Service

Blocking Standards

<u>Traffic Type</u>	<u>Measurement</u>
Exchange Access Final Trunk Group Traffic via Tandems	½ of 1% (0.005)
All Other Final Trunk Group Traffic	1% (0.01)

3.0 Trunk Restoral

<u>Type of Outage</u>	<u>Interval</u>
Service Affecting	within 1 hour
Non-Service Affecting	within 24 hours

The Parties agree that additional Interconnection Performance Benchmarks may be agreed upon by the Implementation Team. However, if any additional Interconnection Performance Benchmarks

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require a Party to maintain records which it then does not maintain, the Party requesting such new or additional benchmarks shall utilize the Bona Fide Request process to request that the other Party provide such records.

SCHEDULE 6.0

MEET-POINT BILLING RATE STRUCTURE

- A. Interstate access - Terminating to or originating from Requesting Carrier Customers served from a Requesting Carrier local exchange End Office.

Rate Element	Billing Company
CCL	Requesting Carrier
Local Switching	Requesting Carrier
Interconnection Charge	Requesting Carrier
Local Transport (Tandem) Termination	50% Ameritech 50% Requesting Carrier
Local Transport (Tandem) Facility	This will be calculated in accordance with MECAB standards, based on applicable V&H coordinates to calculate billing percentages to be applied to the respective Parties' tariffed rates
Tandem Switching	Ameritech
Entrance Facility	Ameritech

- B. Intrastate access - Terminating to or originating from Requesting Carrier Customers served from a Requesting Carrier local exchange End Office.

Rate Element	Billing Company
CCL	Requesting Carrier
Local Switching	Requesting Carrier
Interconnection Charge	Requesting Carrier
Local Transport (Tandem) Termination	50% Ameritech 50% Requesting Carrier
Local Transport (Tandem) Facility	This will be calculated in accordance with MECAB standards, based on applicable V&H coordinates to calculate billing percentages to be applied to the respective Parties' tariffed rates
Tandem Switching	Ameritech

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Entrance Facility

Ameritech

SCHEDULE 7.1

BILLING AND COLLECTION SERVICES FOR ANCILLARY SERVICES

(Please initial) _____ Requesting Carrier hereby agrees to bill and collect for Ancillary Service Traffic and agrees to comply with the remaining terms and conditions in this **Schedule 7.1.**

1.0 DEFINITIONS

“555” is a service in which Providers offer information services for a fee to Customers who dial a number using the “555” prefix.

“976” is a service in which Providers offer audio services for a fee to Customers who dial a number using the “976” prefix.

“**Abbreviated Dialing**” is a service in which Providers offer information services for a fee to Customers who dial a telephone number with less than seven digits.

“**Adjustments**” are dollar amounts that are credited to a Customer’s account. The primary reason for an adjustment is typically a Customer denying that the call was made from their telephone.

“**Ancillary Services**” include, but are not limited to, Abbreviated Dialing, 555 services, 976 services, CPP Cellular services and CPP Paging services.

“**Customer**” is the individual or entity placing a call to an Ancillary Service and who thereby agrees to pay a charge associated with placing the call.

“**Calling Party Pays Cellular**” or “**CPP Cellular**” is a service where a Customer placing a call to a cellular telephone agrees to pay the charges for the call. Typically, an announcement is played to the Customer giving the Customer the option to accept the charges or to end the call without incurring charges.

“**Calling Party Pays Paging**” or “**CPP Paging**” is a service where a Customer placing a call to a pager agrees to pay the charges for the call. Typically, an announcement is played to the Customer giving the Customer the option to accept the charges or to end the call without incurring charges.

“**Provider**” is the entity which offers an Ancillary Service to a Customer.

“**Uncollectibles**” are amounts billed to Customers, which after standard intervals and application of standard collection procedures, are determined to be impracticable of collection and are written off as bad debt on final accounts. Uncollectibles are recoured back to the Provider.

2.0 BILLING AND COLLECTION SERVICES

2.1 Billing Services

In the case where the Ameritech switch generates the call information, Ameritech will provide the Requesting Carrier with formatted records for each Ancillary Service billable call in accordance with each provider's requested rates as specified in **Exhibit A**. In the case where Requesting Carrier's switch generates the call information, the Requesting Carrier will provide Ameritech with call information as specified in **Exhibit A** for each call on a daily basis. Ameritech will rate the call with each provider's requested rates and return a formatted record to the Requesting Carrier. Requesting Carrier shall confirm receipt of such formatted records within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt. Requesting Carrier will render bills on behalf of Ameritech on Requesting Carrier's bills to Requesting Carrier's Customers in accordance with standard Requesting Carrier's billing processes and in the format specified in the Ancillary Services Billing and Collection Service Guidelines (“**Guidelines**”). Requesting Carrier must bill for all calls using the Ancillary Services when those calls are contained on the formatted record. Requesting Carrier shall bill all calls within thirty (30) days of receiving the file.

Requesting Carrier must comply with all federal and state requirements applicable to the provision of the Billing Services.

Requesting Carrier will provide Billing Services to Ameritech for the Ancillary Services described in this Agreement and for additional Ancillary Services that may be developed during the term of this Agreement.

2.2 Collection Services

Requesting Carrier will provide collection services in connection with bills rendered by Requesting Carrier (“**Collection Services**”). These Collection Services consist of:

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- Collecting payments remitted by Requesting Carrier's Customers for calls placed to Ancillary Services billed hereunder;
- Adjusting Customer bills for Ameritech as set forth in **Section 6.0** of this **Schedule 7.1**;
- Responding to Customer inquiries and disputes;
- Remitting net proceeds to Ameritech, as provided in **Section 5.0** of this **Schedule 7.1**;
- Undertaking preliminary collection activity for delinquent accounts.

When an account being treated for collection by Requesting Carrier remains delinquent in excess of thirty (30) days, or in the event telephone service to a delinquent account is terminated, Requesting Carrier may, at its sole discretion, adjust the amount due or declare the account uncollectible and remove the delinquent amount from its Customer's bill.

2.3 Administration.

A description of the process flow, record types, and report format for the Settlement process under this **Schedule 7.1** is set forth in the Guidelines.

3.0 COMPENSATION TO REQUESTING CARRIER

Ameritech shall pay for the Billing and Collection Services described herein at the rates set forth in **Exhibit B**.

4.0 CHANGES TO PROVIDER'S SERVICES AND RATES

The amount which a Provider elects to charge those who place calls to an Ancillary Service will be at Provider's sole discretion. Ameritech shall provide to Requesting Carrier information concerning Provider's programs, including but not limited to Provider's name, rates, type of program and tax status. The charges for such submitted billable Ancillary Service calls will be shown on the Customer's bill in the format specified in the Guidelines.

5.0 SETTLEMENT WITH REQUESTING CARRIER

The amount due to Ameritech shall be the total of all billable charges submitted to Requesting Carrier, less:

- a. All charges due Requesting Carrier under **Section 3.0** of this **Schedule 7.1**;
- b. Amounts declared Uncollectible as provided in **Section 7.0** of this **Schedule 7.1**;
- c. Adjustments as provided in **Section 6.0** of this **Schedule 7.1**;
- d. Taxes collected from Customer

Requesting Carrier shall provide Ameritech with a monthly statement of amounts billed, amounts collected, amounts adjusted, uncollectible amounts and Customer taxes by taxing authority and by Provider including the program number and the amount of taxes applied to the services, as described in the Guidelines. The monthly statement is due to Ameritech by the fifth Business Day of every month. Payment amounts owed to Ameritech by Requesting Carrier shall be due within thirty (30) days from the date of the monthly statement. Late charges on past due amounts shall accrue interest at the rate set forth in **Section 26.4** of this Agreement.

Upon termination of this Agreement for any reason, all sums due to Ameritech hereunder shall be immediately due and payable.

6.0 ADJUSTMENTS

Requesting Carrier may remove a disputed charge from a Customer's account within sixty (60) calendar days from the date of the message; provided that notice of the adjustment is given by Requesting Carrier to Ameritech within sixty (60) calendar days from the date of the message. The form and procedure of this notice is specified in **Exhibit C**.

7.0 UNCOLLECTIBLES

Requesting Carrier may recourse to Ameritech an actual uncollectible amount from a Customer's account, provided that notice of the recourse of the uncollectible amount is given by Requesting Carrier to Ameritech within one-hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of the message. The form and procedure of this notice is specified in **Exhibit C**.

8.0 TAXES

- 8.1 **Taxes Imposed on Services Performed by Requesting Carrier**. Requesting Carrier shall be responsible for payment of all sales, use or other taxes of a similar nature,

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including interest and penalties, imposed on Requesting Carrier's performance of Billing and Collection Services under this Agreement.

- 8.2** Taxes on Ancillary Services. Requesting Carrier shall be responsible for applying taxes as determined by Provider for all Ancillary messages billed hereunder as specified in the Guidelines. Each Provider shall be responsible for determining what taxes apply to the service it provides and for notifying Ameritech of those taxes. Ameritech shall notify Requesting Carrier of this information and pursuant to this Agreement Requesting Carrier shall bill and collect such taxes based on information supplied by Provider and shall remit such taxes to Ameritech. Requesting Carrier shall identify the amount of taxes and type of taxes, by Provider. Ameritech shall then remit such collected taxes to the Provider. Provider shall remit any taxes it owes to the taxing authority.

9.0 BLOCKING

Requesting Carrier shall comply with all federal and state requirements to block Customer access to Ancillary Services upon Customer's request. Requesting Carrier shall also block Customer access to Ancillary Services upon Ameritech's request, as set forth in **Exhibit D.**

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EXHIBIT A

Daily Usage Information

Ameritech will send daily usage tapes, in EMR standard format, to Requesting Carrier containing the following message information for services specified in this Agreement:

- date of the call
- calling number
- called number
- duration of call
- charge for the call excluding taxes
- identity of Provider (IP's Pseudo CIC Code as shown on the EMR record, in the CIC Code field, positions 166 and 150-153)

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EXHIBIT B

Requesting Carrier Compensation

Rate per billed message:

\$0.03

EXHIBIT C

Provider's Information

Initial Notification:

Ameritech will fax a copy of the 976, CPP/C, CPP/P Sponsor and Program List to Requesting Carrier within three (3) business days of receiving the following information. Fax completed page to the Resale Service Center at 1-800-260-5480.

Requesting Carrier _____

Contact Name _____

Phone Number _____

Fax Number _____

Pager Number _____

Address _____

City/State _____

Zip Code _____

NOTE: Call the Resale Service Center at 1-800-924-3666 with questions regarding Sponsors and Program Lists.

Updates:

Ameritech will fax to the Requesting Carrier 976, CPP/C, CPP/P Program changes, additions and/or deletions as they become available.

EXHIBIT D

General Information on Blocking

- Optional Blocking is available to consumer and business Customers that want the capability to block direct calls to Provider's services covered in this Schedule.
- Customers attempting to reach programming from accounts where blocking has been established will reach a recording informing them that the call cannot be completed.
- Access to 976 services is prohibited by tariff from providing Group Access Bridging (GAB) services whereby a Customer can be connected to parties other than the IP for the purpose of establishing a conference call.
- Collect, operator assisted, calling card, and person-to-person calls to 976 are not allowed.
- Collect and person-to-person calls to CPP/C and CPP/P are not allowed.
- Calls from WATS, hotel/motel, Ameritech Public/semi-public telephones and lines with Call Blocking will not be allowed to 976 service.
- 976 Call Blocking should not be added to accounts that have Consumer/Business Toll Restrictions.
- Call Blocking will be provided only where CO facilities permit.
- Call Blocking may not be limited to specific programs.
- Call Blocking does not block calls to other telephone companies' numbers.
- Call Blocking does not block long distance charges.
- Requesting Carrier reserves the right to provide to the general public, upon request, the complete name, address, and telephone number of the Information Providers in response to inquiries and comments referring to the Information Provider's services.
- The first time a Customer specifically disputes Pay-Per-Call charges, Customer must be informed of the availability of Call Blocking and disputed charges are adjusted accordingly on Customer's bill. Inform Customer that the Information Provider may pursue collection of charges directly with Customer.

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- After the Customer specifically disputes charges, inform Customer that mandatory blocking will be established on Customer's line and disputed amount is adjusted accordingly on Customer's bill. Inform Customer that the Information Providers may pursue collection of charges directly with Customers.
- Adjustments granted as the result of refusal to pay, denies all knowledge, unsatisfactory payment arrangements, etc., should be classified as an uncollectible adjustment and blocking should be established after first request.
- On the database, Adjustments granted as the result of poor transmission, call not completed or calls completed due to failure to establish blocking, such as service order issued incorrectly, should be classified as correct charges on the Ameritech entity code (R or NBT).
- Blocking must be imposed on those Customers who refuse to pay legitimate Per-Per-Call charges, to the extent permitted under Applicable Law.

SCHEDULE 7.7.2

OS/DA

Operator Services

A. Definitions - Operator Services consist of the following services.

1. Manual Call Assistance - manual call processing with operator involvement for the following services:
 - a. Calling card - the Customer dials 0+ or 0- and asks the operator to bill the call to the called number, provided such billing is accepted by the called number.
 - b. Collect - the Customer dials 0+ or 0- and asks the operator to bill the call to the called number, provided such billing is accepted by the called number.
 - c. Third number billed - the Customer dials 0+ or 0- and asks the operator to bill the call to a different number than the calling or called number.
 - d. Operator assistance - providing local and intraLATA operator assistance for the purposes of:
 - 1) assisting Customers requesting help in completing calls or requesting information on how to place calls;
 - 2) handling emergency calls;
 - 3) verifying "no answer" and "busy" ("BLV") conditions for the Customer;
 - 4) interrupting calls in progress for Customer ("BLVI");
 - 5) providing local and intraLATA operator assisted call rate information; and

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- 6) handling person to person calls.
 - e. Operator Transfer Service (OTS) - calls in which the Customers dials "0" and is connected to an Ameritech operator and then requests call routing to an IXC subscribing to OTS. The operator will key the IXC's digit carrier identification code to route the Customer to the requested IXC's point of termination.
- 2. Automated Call Assistance - mechanized call processing without operator involvement for the following services:
 - a. ~~Merchanized~~ calling card service (MCCS) - the Customer dials 0 and a telephone number, and responds to prompts to complete the billing information
 - b. Ameritech Alternatively Billed Services (AABS) - the Customer dials 0 and a telephone number and responds to prompts to process the call and complete the billing information (Requesting Carrier branding not currently available). Collect, Calling Card and third number calls can be completed.
 - c. Automated coin toll services (ACTS) - ACTS calculates charges, relates the charge to the Requesting Carrier, and monitors coins deposited before connecting the 1 + intraLATA call.
- 3. Line Information Database (LIDB) Validation - mechanized queries to a LIDB for billing validation.
- 4. Branding - the ability, when available, to put Requesting Carrier's brand on the front end of an OS call that is directly trunked into Ameritech's OS switch. 'Customer Branding' provides the ability, when available, to put Requesting Carrier's brand on that portion of the OS call going out to the called/billed party.
- B. Rate Application - Ameritech will provide Operator Services and will bill Requesting Carrier the applicable rates on a monthly basis, in accordance with the following methodology:

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1. Operator Assistance - operator call occurrences multiplied by the per call rate, except as provided in B.5. Total call occurrences shall include all processed calls whether or not they are completed.
2. Automated Call Assistance (MCCS, AABS and ACTS) - call occurrences multiplied by the per call occurrence rate, except as provided in B.5. Total call occurrences shall include all processed calls whether or not they are completed.
3. LIDB Validation - validation occurrences multiplied by the LIDB validation per occurrence rate, except as provided in B.5. Total validation occurrences shall include all validations whether or not the call is completed.
4. Ameritech will accumulate operator occurrences, automated occurrences, and LIDB validation occurrences via its Operator Services Call Analysis System (OSCAS). OSCAS utilizes TOPS AMA recordings to produce monthly summaries of mechanized and manual call occurrences.
5. If TOPS AMA recordings are lost, destroyed or mutilated due solely to Ameritech's acts or omissions, then Ameritech may not bill Requesting Carrier for those calls for which there are no records. However, if within ninety (90) days, actual data should become available, Ameritech may bill and Requesting Carrier agrees to be responsible for those calls using actual data.

C. Rate Table

See Item _____ of the Pricing Schedule,

Directory Assistance

A. Definition - Directory Assistance service shall consist of the following services,

1. Home NPA Directory Assistance - those calls in which the Customer dials "1+411", "411", "1+555-1212" or "555-1212" or "1+Area Code +555-1212" or such other numbers as designed by Requesting Carrier to obtain Directory Assistance for local numbers located within its NPA.¹

¹ Calls defined herein by dialing arrangement shall remain subject to this Agreement if such dialing arrangements change during the Term, unless such

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2. Information Call Completion ▪ provides a Customer who has accessed the Directory Assistance service and has received a number from the Audio Response Unit (ARU), the option of having the call completed by pressing a specific digit on a touch tone telephone.
3. Branding ▪ the ability to put messages on the front end of a DA call that is directly trunked into Ameritech's DA switch.

B. Rate Table ▪ See Item __ of the Pricing Schedule

change **makes** service technically or economically impracticable.

SCHEDULE 9.2.1

LOCAL LOOPS

Subject to **Section 1.1 of Schedule 9.5**, Ameritech shall allow Requesting Carrier access to the Unbundled Local Loop types described on this **Schedule 9.2.1** unbundled from Local Switching and Interoffice Transmission Facilities.

“2-Wire Analog Voice Grade Unbundled Local Loop” or **“Analog 2W”** supports analog transmission of 300-3000 Hz, repeat loop start, loop reverse battery, or ground start seizure and disconnect in one direction (toward the End Office Switch), and repeat ringing in the other direction (toward the Customer) and terminates in a 2-Wire interface at the MDF in the Ameritech Serving Wire Center and the Customer premises. Analog 2W are technically sufficient to provide PBX trunks, pay telephone lines and electronic key system lines. Analog 2W will be provided in accordance with the specifications, interfaces, and parameters described in Technical Reference AM-TR-TMO-000122, Ameritech Unbundled Analog Loops.

“4-Wire Analog Voice Grade Unbundled Local Loop” or **“Analog 4W”** supports transmission of voice grade signals using separate transmit and receive paths and terminates in a 4-wire electrical interface at both ends. Analog 4W will be provided in accordance with the specifications, interfaces, and parameters described in Technical Reference AM-TR-TMO-000122, Ameritech Unbundled Analog Loops.

“2-Wire ISDN 160 Kbps Digital Unbundled Local Loop” or **“BRI-ISDN”** supports digital transmission of two 64 Kbps bearer channels and one 16 Kbps data channel (2B+D). BRI-ISDN is a 2B+D Basic Rate Interface-Integrated Services Digital Network (BRI-ISDN) unbundled Loop which meets national ISDN standards and conforms to Technical Reference AM-TR-TMO-000123, Ameritech Unbundled Digital Loops (including ISDN) and ANSI T1.601-1998 for ISDN.

“2-Wire ADSL-Compatible Unbundled Local Loop” or **“ADSL 2W”** is a transmission path that facilitates the transmission of up to a 6 Mbps digital signal downstream (toward the Customer) and up to a 640 Kbps digital signal upstream (away from the Customer) while simultaneously carrying an analog voice signal. An ADSL-2W is provided over a 2-Wire, non-loaded twisted copper pair provisioned using revised resistance design guidelines and meeting ANSI Standard T1.413- 1998 non-overlapped mode only per Annex F and AM TR--TMO-000123. An ADSL 2W terminates in a 2-wire electrical interface at the Customer

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premises and at the MDF in the Ameritech Serving Wire Center. ADSL technology can only be deployed over Loops which extend less than 18 Kft. from Ameritech's Central Office. ADSL 2W are available only where existing copper facilities can meet the ANSI T1.413-1998 non-overlapped mode only per Annex F specifications or where existing copper facilities can be conditioned to meet the ANSI T1.413-1998 non-overlapped mode only per Annex F specifications.

"2-Wire HDSL-Compatible Unbundled Local Loop" or "HDSL 2W" is a transmission path that facilitates the transmission of a 768 Kbps digital signal over a 2-Wire, non-loaded twisted copper pair meeting the specifications in ITU Rec. G.991.1. HDSL 2W are available only where existing copper facilities can meet the ITU Rec. G.991.1 and AM-TR-TMO-000123 specifications or where existing copper facilities can be conditioned to meet the applicable technical standards.

"4-Wire HDSL-Compatible Unbundled Local Loop" or "HDSL 4W" is a transmission path that facilitates the transmission of a 1.544 Mbps digital signal over two 2-Wire, non-loaded twisted copper pairs meeting the specifications in ITU Rec. G.991.1 and AM-TR-TMO-000123. HDSL 4W are available only where existing copper facilities can meet the ITU Rec. G.991.1 or where existing copper facilities can be conditioned to meet the applicable technical standards.

"4-Wire 64 Kbps Compatible Digital Unbundled Local Loop" or "4-Wire 64 Digital" is a transmission path that supports transmission of digital signals of up to a maximum binary information rate of 64 Kbps and terminates in a 4-Wire electrical interface at both the Customer premises and on the MDF in Ameritech's Serving Wire Center. 4-Wire 64 Digital will be provided in accordance with the specifications, interfaces and parameters described in AM-TR-TMO-000123.

"4-Wire 1.544 Mbps DS-1 Compatible Digital Unbundled Local Loop" or "1.544 Mbps Digital" is a transmission path that supports transmission of digital signals of up to a maximum binary information rate of 1.544 Mbps and terminates in a 4-Wire electrical interface at the Customer premises and on the DSX frame in Ameritech's Serving Wire Center. 1.544 Mbps Digital will be provided in accordance with the specifications, interfaces and parameters described in AM-TR-TMO-000123.

SCHEDULE 9.2.2

INTEROFFICE TRANSMISSION FACILITIES

Interoffice Transmission Facilities are Ameritech transmission facilities dedicated to a particular Customer or carrier, or shared by more than one Customer or carrier, used to provide Telecommunications Services between Central Offices owned by Ameritech or between Central Offices owned by Ameritech and Requesting Carrier, as provided on this **Schedule 9.2.2**.

1. Subject to **Section 1.4** below, Ameritech shall make available to Requesting Carrier access to the following types of unbundled Interoffice Transmission Facilities:

1.1 Unbundled Dedicated Interoffice Transmission Facilities (“**Dedicated Transport**”) are dedicated facilities connecting two Ameritech Central Offices that utilize Ameritech transmission equipment and that provide Requesting Carrier exclusive use of such facilities. In each Central Office, Requesting Carrier will Cross-Connect this facility to its own transmission equipment (physically or virtually) Collocated in each Central Office. Requesting Carrier may combine this facility with other unbundled Network Elements it purchases from Ameritech. All applicable digital Cross-Connect, multiplexing, and Collocation space charges apply at an additional cost.

1.2. “**Unbundled dedicated entrance facility**” is a dedicated facility connecting Ameritech’s transmission equipment in the Ameritech Central Office in the Serving Wire Center with Requesting Carrier’s transmission equipment in Requesting Carrier’s Central Office.

1.3. Ameritech shall be required to make available to Requesting Carrier access to unbundled Interoffice Transmission Facilities (i) between its End Offices, and (ii) between any of its Central Offices and (x) Requesting Carrier’s Central Offices or (y) any other third party’s Central Offices, only where such interoffice facilities exist at the time of Requesting Carrier’s request.

SCHEDULE 9.5

PROVISIONING OF NETWORK ELEMENTS

1.0 General Provisioning Requirements.

- 1.1 Requesting Carrier may order, from Ameritech, multiple individual Network Elements on a single order without the need to have Requesting Carrier send an order for each such Network Element if such Network Elements are for (i) the same element, (ii) a single type of service (i.e., same NC/NCI code), (iii) a single location, and (iv) the same account and Requesting Carrier provides on the order the same detail as required when such Network Elements are ordered individually.
- 1.2 Ameritech shall provide provisioning services to Requesting Carrier Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CST. Requesting Carrier may request Ameritech to provide Saturday, Sunday, holiday, and/or off-hour provisioning services. If Requesting Carrier requests that Ameritech perform provisioning services at times or on days other than as required in the preceding sentence, Ameritech shall quote, within three (3) Business Days of Requesting Carrier's request, a cost-based rate for such services. If Requesting Carrier accepts Ameritech's quote, Ameritech shall perform such provisioning services.
- 1.3 Ameritech shall provide a Single Point of Contact ("**SPOC**") for ordering and provisioning contacts and order flow involved in the purchase and provisioning of Ameritech's unbundled Network Elements. The SPOCs shall provide an electronic interface 5:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., CST, Monday through Friday and 5:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., CST on Saturdays. Each SPOC shall also provide to Requesting Carrier a telephone number (operational from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CST, Monday through Friday) which will be answered by capable staff trained to answer questions and resolve problems in connection with the provisioning of Ameritech's unbundled Network Elements.
- 1.4 Ameritech shall provide to Requesting Carrier a single point of contact (the "**Unbundling Ordering Center**") for ordering unbundled Network Elements. A telephone number will be provided from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CST, Monday through Friday. This Unbundling Ordering Center is responsible for order acceptance, order issuance, and return of the Firm Order Confirmation (FOC) to Requesting Carrier as specified in this **Schedule 9.5.**

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In addition, Ameritech shall provide to Requesting Carrier a single point of contact (the **“Network Element Control Center”** or **“NECC”**) for all provisioning, maintenance and repair.

- 1.5 Ameritech will recognize Requesting Carrier as the Customer of Record of all Network Elements ordered by Requesting Carrier and will send all notices, invoices and pertinent Customer information directly to Requesting Carrier.
- 1.6 For those orders submitted by Requesting Carrier through the Provisioning EI, Ameritech will provide Requesting Carrier with a FOC for each order within forty-eight (48) hours of Ameritech’s receipt of that order, or within a different time interval agreed upon by the Implementation Team. The FOC shall contain the order number(s), circuit identifications, physical Interconnection, quantity, and Ameritech confirmation date for order completion, subject to facility and assignment availability (the **“Confirmation Due Date”**), which Confirmation Due Date shall be established on a nondiscriminatory basis with respect to installation dates for comparable orders at such time.
- 1.7 Upon work completion, for those orders submitted by Requesting Carrier through the Provisioning EI, Ameritech will provide Requesting Carrier electronically with a completed order confirmation per order that states when that order was completed.
- 1.8 As soon as identified, for those orders submitted by Requesting Carrier through the Provisioning EI, Ameritech shall provide notification electronically of Requesting Carrier orders that are incomplete or incorrect and therefore cannot be processed.
- 1.9 If Requesting Carrier is electronically bonded, as soon as identified, Ameritech shall provide notification electronically of any instances when Ameritech’s Confirmation Due Dates are in jeopardy of not being met by Ameritech on any element or feature contained in any order for an unbundled Network Element. Ameritech shall indicate its new Confirmation Due Date as soon as such date is available.
- 1.10 For orders of Network Elements (and NP with the installation of a Loop) that require coordination among Ameritech, Requesting Carrier and Requesting Carrier’s Customer, Requesting Carrier shall be responsible for any necessary coordination with the Requesting Carrier Customer.

- I.11 Ameritech will expedite Requesting Carrier's orders on the same basis as it expedites orders for its retail Customers. If Ameritech will be unable to meet a Requesting Carrier expedite request, Ameritech will notify Requesting Carrier. If Requesting Carrier's request for an expedite requires Ameritech to perform work in addition to that when it expedites an order for its retail Customers, Requesting Carrier shall compensate Ameritech to perform such work at rates determined in accordance with Section 252(d) of the Act.
- 1.12 Ameritech's obligation to process Requesting Carrier's Non-Electronic Orders for unbundled Network Elements, and the rates, terms and conditions applicable to such orders, shall be as described in **Section 10.13.2(b)**.

2.0 Unbundled Local Loop Transmission

2.1 Access to Unbundled Local Loops.

2.1.1 Requesting Carrier shall access Ameritech's Unbundled Local Loops via Collocation or any technically feasible method pursuant to **Section 2.2 of Schedule 9.5** at the Ameritech Central Office or as required by applicable law. Each Unbundled Local Loop shall be delivered to Requesting Carrier's Collocation by means of a Cross-Connection, which shall be an additional charge.

2.1.2 Ameritech shall provide Requesting Carrier access to unbundled Loops at the Ameritech Serving Wire Center. In addition, if Requesting Carrier requests one or more Loops serviced by Integrated Digital Loop Carrier or Remote Switching technology deployed as a Loop concentrator, Ameritech shall, where available, move the requested Loop(s) to a spare, existing copper or non-integrated Loop at no additional charge to Requesting Carrier. If, however, no spare copper or non-integrated Loop is available, Ameritech shall, within two (2) Business Days, notify Requesting Carrier of the lack of available facilities. Requesting Carrier may then, at its discretion, submit a Bona Fide Request for Ameritech to provide Requesting Carrier access to the Unbundled Local Loop, including via the demultiplexing of the integrated digitized Loop(s).

2.1.3 If Requesting Carrier orders a Loop type and the Loop facility that exists at the time of such order does not meet the technical specifications or characteristics of the Loop type requested (including distance), Requesting Carrier shall first approve and then compensate Ameritech for its costs incurred to condition or modify such Loop facilities.

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2.1.4 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, the provisioning intervals set forth in **Section 2.2.2** of this Schedule and the Ameritech Network Element Performance Benchmarks set forth in **Schedule 9.10** of this Agreement shall not apply to unbundled Loops provided under **Sections 2.1.2, 2.1.3 and 2.1.5** of this Schedule.

2.1.5 If Requesting Carrier requests Ameritech to provide an Unbundled Local Loop that supports a technical standard identified for an Unbundled Local Loop as set forth on **Schedule 9.2.1**, and the provision of such Unbundled Local Loop requires conditioning to meet such technical standard, Requesting Carrier shall first approve and then pay for any charges for Ameritech to condition such Unbundled Local Loop. Conditioning charges shall be in addition to any other charges (e.g., monthly recurring, service order, etc.) applicable to the provisioning of such Unbundled Local Loop.

2.1.6 Ameritech makes no representation, warranty or guarantee and Requesting Carrier receives no representation, warranty or guarantee with respect to any Unbundled Local Loops ordered by Requesting Carrier for the provision of DSL-based or other advanced services that do not conform to the technical standards described for each Unbundled Local Loop described on **Schedule 9.2.1**.

2.1.7 If Requesting Carrier provisions Unbundled Local Loop technologies not described on **Schedule 9.2.1**, Requesting Carrier shall assume full and sole responsibility for any Loss, damage, service interruption or other service or product degradation effects and will indemnify and hold Ameritech harmless for any Loss to Ameritech or its facilities, including any Consequential Damages made upon Ameritech by any provider or telecommunications user if such Loss, damage, service interruption or other degradation effects, arises out of, or results from, the use of such Unbundled Local Loop technologies. Further, Requesting Carrier agrees that it will undertake to defend Ameritech against and assume payment for any Loss arising out of any such Claims made against Ameritech resulting from Requesting Carrier's provisioning of services using such Unbundled Local Loop technologies.

2.2 Provisioning of Unbundled Loops.

The coordination procedures described in this **Section 2.2** shall apply when Requesting Carrier orders an Ameritech-provided voice-grade non-DS 1 Loop to convert "live" Ameritech retail Telephone Exchange Service to Requesting Carrier's Telecommunications Service provisioned through such unbundled Loop:

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2.2.1 Requesting Carrier shall request unbundled Loops from Ameritech by delivering to Ameritech a valid electronic transmittal service order (a **“Service Order”**) using the Provisioning EI. Within forty eight (48) hours of Ameritech’s receipt of a Service Order, Ameritech shall provide Requesting Carrier the FOC that sets forth the Confirmation Due Date according to the applicable Ameritech Network Element Performance Benchmarks set forth in **Section 9.10** of this Agreement by which the Loop(s) covered by such Service Order will be installed.

2.2.2 Except as otherwise provided herein, Ameritech shall provision unbundled Loops in accordance with the time frames set forth on **Schedule 9.10** or within such other intervals as agreed upon by the Parties.

2.2.3 Ameritech and Requesting Carrier shall coordinate to designate, at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the Confirmation Due Date, a scheduled conversion date and time (the **“Scheduled Conversion Time”**) in the **“A.M.”** (12:00 midnight to 12:00 noon) or **“P.M.”** (12:00 noon to 12:00 midnight) (as applicable, the **“Conversion Window”**).

2.2.4 Not less than one (1) hour prior to the Scheduled Conversion Time, either Party may contact the other Party and unilaterally designate a new Scheduled Conversion Time (the **“New Conversion Time”**). If the New Conversion Time is within the Conversion Window, no charges shall be assessed on or waived by either Party. If, however, the New Conversion Time is outside of the Conversion Window, the Party requesting such New Conversion Time shall be subject to the following:

If Ameritech requests the New Conversion Time, the applicable Line Connection Charge shall be waived; and

If Requesting Carrier requests the New Conversion Time, Requesting Carrier shall be assessed a Line Connection Charge in addition to the Line Connection Charge that will be incurred for the New Conversion Time.

2.2.5 Except as otherwise agreed by the Parties for a specific conversion, the Parties agree that the time interval expected from disconnection of **“live”** Telephone Exchange Service to the connection of an unbundled Loop at the Requesting Carrier Collocation interface point will be sixty (60) minutes or less. If a conversion interval exceeds sixty (60) minutes and such delay is caused solely by Ameritech (and not by a Delaying Event), Ameritech shall waive the applicable Line Connection Charge for such element.

2.2.6 Requests for maintenance or repair of unbundled Loops are initiated using the industry standard “**electronic bonding**” interface (EBI) and are handled by the Ameritech NECC. The NECC works with local Ameritech personnel to perform any manual testing that may be required to isolate the trouble.

3.0 Interoffice Transmission Facilities.

3.1 Requesting Carrier shall access Ameritech’s Interoffice Transmission Facilities via Collocation or any technically feasible method pursuant to **Section 2.2 of Schedule 9.5** at the Ameritech Central Office where that element exists and each DSX or OCN circuit will be delivered to Requesting Carrier’s Collocation space for an additional charge by means of a Cross-Connection, Requesting Carrier shall order Interoffice Transmission Facilities from Ameritech by delivering to Ameritech a valid and complete service order via an electronic Access Services Request (“ASR”) interface. If after the Effective Date Ameritech makes available the ability to order Interoffice Transmission Facilities via the Provisioning EI. Requesting Carrier agrees to transition its ordering of such facilities from ASR to the Provisioning EI within thirty (30) days after Ameritech is capable of receiving such orders via Provisioning EI.

3.2 Ameritech shall offer Interoffice Transmission Facilities in each of the following ways:

3.2.1 As a dedicated transmission path (e.g., DS1, DS3, OC3, OC12 and OC48) dedicated to Requesting Carrier as described in **Section 1.1 of Schedule 9.2.2.**

3.3 Where Dedicated Transport is provided, it shall include (as appropriate):

3.3.1 The transmission path at the requested speed or bit rate.

3.3.2 The following optional features are available; if requested by Requesting Carrier, at additional cost:

3.3.2.1 Clear Channel Capability per 1.544 Mbps (DS1) bit stream.

3.3.2.2 Ameritech provided Central Office multiplexing:

- (a) DS1 to Voice/Base Rate/128, 256, 384 Kbps Transport;
- (b) DS3 to DSI multiplexing;

- (c) OC3 Add/Drop
 - per DS3 Add/Drop
 - per DS 1 Add/Drop;
- (d) OC 12 Add/Drop
 - per OC3 Add/Drop
 - per DS3 Add/Drop; and
- (e) OC48 Add/Drop
 - per OC 12 Add/Drop
 - per OC3 Add/Drop
 - per DS3 Add/Drop.

3.3.2.3 Ameritech-provided OC3, OC12 and OC48 Protection on Entrance Facilities.

- (a) 1+1 Protection;
- (b) 1+1 Protection with Cable Survivability; and
- (c) 1+1 Protection with Route Survivability.

3.4 Ameritech shall:

3.4.1 Provide Requesting Carrier exclusive use of Interoffice Transmission Facilities dedicated to Requesting Carrier in the case of Dedicated Transport;

3.4.2 Provide all technically feasible transmission facilities, features, functions, and capabilities that Requesting Carrier could use to provide Telecommunications Services;

3.4.3 Permit, to the extent technically feasible, Requesting Carrier to connect such Interoffice Transmission Facilities to equipment designated by Requesting Carrier, including Requesting Carrier's Collocated facilities; and

3.4.4 Permit, to the extent technically feasible, Requesting Carrier to obtain the functionality provided by Ameritech's digital cross-connect systems separate from Dedicated Transport.

3.5 Technical Requirements.

This **Section 3.5** sets forth the technical requirements for Dedicated Transport:

3.5.1 When Ameritech provides Dedicated Transport as a facility, the entire designated transmission facility (e.g., DS 1, DS3) shall be dedicated to Requesting Carrier designated traffic.

3.5.2 Ameritech shall offer Dedicated Transport in all the currently available technologies including DS1 and DS3 transport facilities and SONET point-to-point transport facilities, at all standard transmission bit rates, except subrate services, where available.

3.5.3 For DS1 facilities, Dedicated Transport shall, at a minimum, meet the performance, availability, jitter, and delay requirements specified for Customer Interface to Central Office "CI to CO" connections in the applicable technical references set forth under Interoffice Transmission Facilities in the Technical Reference Schedule.

3.5.4 For DS3 facilities and higher rate facilities, Dedicated Transport shall, at a minimum, meet the performance, availability, jitter, and delay requirements specified for Customer Interface to Central Office "CI to CO" connections in the applicable technical references set forth under Interoffice Transmission Facilities in the Technical Reference Schedule.

3.5.5 When requested by Requesting Carrier, Dedicated Transport shall provide physical diversity. Physical diversity means that two circuits are provisioned in such a way that no single failure of facilities or equipment will cause a failure on both circuits. When physical diversity is requested by Requesting Carrier, Ameritech shall provide the maximum feasible physical separation between intra-office and inter-office transmission paths (unless otherwise agreed by Requesting Carrier). Any request by Requesting Carrier for diversity shall be subject to additional charges.

3.5.6 Upon Requesting Carrier's request and its payment of any additional charges, Ameritech shall provide immediate and continuous remote access to performance monitoring and alarm data affecting, or potentially affecting, Requesting Carrier's traffic.

3.5.7 Ameritech shall offer the following interface transmission rates for Dedicated Transport:

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3.5.7.1 DS1 (Extended SuperFrame - ESF, D4);

3.5.7.2 DS3 (M13 shall be provided);

3.5.7.3 SONET standard interface rates in accordance with the applicable ANSI technical references set forth under Interoffice Transmission Facilities in the Technical Reference Schedule.

3.5.8 Upon Requesting Carrier's request, Ameritech shall provide Requesting Carrier with electronic reconfiguration control of a Requesting Carrier specified Dedicated Transport through Ameritech Network Reconfiguration Service (ANRS) on the rates, terms and conditions in F.C.C. Tariff No. 2.

3.5.9 Ameritech shall permit, at applicable rates, Requesting Carrier to obtain the functionality provided by DCS together with dedicated transport in the same manner that Ameritech offers such capabilities to IXC's that purchase transport services. If Requesting Carrier requests additional functionality, such request shall be made through the Bona Fide Request process.

SCHEDULE 9.10

NETWORK ELEMENT PERFORMANCE ACTIVITIES

A. Non-DS1 Loops-Standard Intervals

<u>Volume*</u>	<u>Interval</u>
1-24	5 Business Days
25-48	6 Business Days
49-96	7 Business Days
97+	Negotiated

*Number of Loops Per Order Per Day

B. DS 1 Unbundled Local Transport

1.	Facilities Available	7 Business Days
2.	Facilities or Force Not Available	Negotiated Interval

C. DS3-Unbundled Local Transport Negotiated Interval

D. OC-N-Unbundled Local Transport Negotiated Interval

SCHEDULE 10.13.2

SERVICE ORDERING AND PROVISIONING INTERFACE FUNCTIONALITY

The Provisioning EI will provide Requesting Carrier with the ability to:

- a) Obtain, during sales discussions with a Customer, access to the following Ameritech Customer service record data in a manner which is transparent to the Customer:
 - Billing telephone number/name/address
 - Service Location Address
 - Working telephone number(s) on the account
 - Existing service and features
 - Blocking
 - CLASS Features
 - Telephone Assistance Programs, Telephone Relay Service and similar services indicator
 - Special Exemption Status indicator
 - Directory Listing Information
 - Information necessary to identify the IntraLATA toll provider and InterLATA provider, as applicable.
- b) Obtain information on all features and services available;
- c) Enter the Requesting Carrier Customer order for all desired features and services;
- d) Assign a telephone number (if the Requesting Carrier Customer does not have one assigned);
- e) Establish the appropriate directory listing;
- f) Determine if a service call is needed to install the line or service;
- g) Schedule dispatch and installation, if applicable;
- h) Provide installation dates to Customer;
- i) Order local intraLATA toll service and enter Requesting Carrier Customer's choice of primary interexchange carrier on a single, unified order; and

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j) Suspend, terminate or restore service to a Requesting Carrier Customer,

Ameritech will support four (4) transaction types: Assume; Change; New; and Delete, as described in Ameritech's Electronic Service Guide, which is based on TCIF Customer Service, Issue 5. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Requesting Carrier shall be entitled to place orders to transfer a Customer to Requesting Carrier without identifying the specific features and services being subscribed by such Customer at the time of the request ("**Migration-As-Is**"). However, unless agreed to by Ameritech, Migration-As-Is will not include any service subscribed which is not a Telecommunications Service.

Ameritech will expedite Requesting Carrier's orders on the same basis as it expedites orders for its retail Customers. If Ameritech will be unable to meet a Requesting Carrier expedite request, Ameritech will notify Requesting Carrier. If Requesting Carrier's request for an expedite requires Ameritech to perform work in addition to that when it expedites an order for its retail Customers, Requesting Carrier shall compensate Ameritech to perform such work at rates determined in accordance with Section 252(d) of the Act.

SCHEDULE 12.3

NON-STANDARD COLLOCATION REQUEST

1. Ameritech shall promptly consider and analyze the submission of a Non-Standard Collocation Request (“**NSCR**”) that Ameritech provide: (a) an ILEC Collocation method not otherwise provided hereunder at the time of such request, (b) Adjacent Collocation, (c) Non-Standard Bay Collocation, or (d) an increment of space not otherwise provided hereunder at the time of such request, in each case in specific Ameritech Premises.
2. An NSCR shall be submitted in writing to the NSCR Manager noted on the NSCR Form attached hereto as Attachment 1 and shall include all information necessary for Ameritech to review and analyze such NSCR.
3. Within five (5) Business Days of its receipt, Ameritech shall acknowledge receipt of the NSCR.
4. Within ten (10) days (the “**Collo Analysis Period**”) of its receipt of all information required to be provided on the NSCR Form, Ameritech shall notify (the “**Co110 Analysis**”) Requesting Carrier whether Ameritech will offer such NSCR or will provide an explanation as to why Ameritech will not make such NSCR available. If Ameritech will offer the NSCR, Ameritech shall provide Requesting Carrier a price quote and estimated availability date for such development (the “**NSCR Quote**”). Ameritech shall provide an NSCR Quote as soon as feasible, but in any event not more than thirty (30) days from the date Ameritech received such NSCR and all necessary information to process such NSCR.
5. Within twenty (20) Business Days of its receipt of the NSCR Quote, the Requesting Carrier must either confirm its order pursuant to the NSCR Quote or such request shall be cancelled.
6. Requesting Carrier may cancel an NSCR at any time, but shall pay Ameritech’s reasonable costs of processing and/or implementing the NSCR up to the date of cancellation.
7. Unless Requesting Carrier agrees otherwise, all prices shall be consistent with the pricing principles of the Act, FCC and/or the Commission.
8. If a Party to an NSCR believes that the other Party is not requesting, negotiating, or processing the NSCR in good faith, or disputes a determination, or price or cost quote, such Party may exercise its rights under **Section 27.4**.